JOHN BULL

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For meaning of this No. see Page ii. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—Bacon.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

Contents

OF THIS ISSUE WILL BE FOUND ON PAGE 449.

"CAN ENGLISH GIRLS KISS?"

For an interesting article
on this important subject
see NEXT WEEK'S

"MRS. BULL"

companion publication to *John Bull.*

TO SPORTING READERS

For Special and Exclusive Pictures
of the

"LINCOLN" AND "NATIONAL"

see NEXT WEEK'S

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The following claims have been received for our issues of February 4th and 11th:—

S. WILMER, 22, Wellington Street, Colchester. No. 567,515. February 4th.

J. McPHERSON, 151, Islington, Liverpool. No. 482,409. February 4th.

J. J. STACEY, 1, Sunningdale, Belmont Road, Hereford. No. 160,758. February 11th.

W. H. BATES, 2, Queen's Place, Queen Street, Chester. No. 460,262. February 11th.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of February 25th:—

561	117384	206145	335570	537811
1781	125234	239136	359186	542680
8304	139762	239929	360601	565817
16957	163234	265881	371292	594247
34834	167923	267666	380001	611441
50203	183784	270607	413025	623953
66385	190042	278863	409322	633228
96687	199533	291147	421192	433301
104008	201234	299080	423247	651689
116387	207432	306387	521238	659836

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED APRIL 22ND (PUBLISHED APRIL 20TH).

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Vol. X. No. 251. Saturday, March 25th, 1911. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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The John Bull League.

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WILL DELIVER AN ADDRESS ON
"THE ARMY—FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT."
AT THE
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TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY), MARCH 23rd, at 8 p.m.
Chairman.—COUNCILLOR J. HUSSEY.
Doors open 7 o'clock. Concert 7.30.

AT THE
TOWN HALL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
TO-MORROW (FRIDAY), MARCH 24th, at 8 p.m.
Doors open 7 p.m. Organ Recital 7 to 8 p.m.
Chairman.—COUNCILLOR J. HUSSEY.

AND AT THE
ALBERT HALL, LEEDS.
THURSDAY, MARCH 30th, at 8 p.m.
Chairman.—Mr. W. B. RUSSELL.
Doors open 7 p.m. Concert 7 to 8 p.m.

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THE PRESIDENT,
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SHEFFIELD BRANCH.

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AT
THE CAMBRIDGE HALL, SHEFFIELD.
MONDAY, MARCH 27th, at 8 p.m.
Tickets can be obtained from the Local Secretaries, Mr. B. H. Tubbs, of 31, Idsworth Road, Pitsmoor, and Mr. W. H. CHAPMAN, of 73, Willoughby Street, Firth Park.

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THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

THE COLD, GREY DAWN.

We are not enthusiastic disciples of Sir Edward Grey, but we welcome the "feeler" he has thrown out to America. At the same time, we confess to a certain distrust of alliances. That with Japan in particular threatened risks of all sorts of complications. And what about South America? Surely that would be one of the difficulties of any bargain. It is also to be remembered that every new alliance implies possible hostility to the enemies of the new allies, and the "Yankees" have many enemies. It is all very well for Sir Edward Grey to say that, when we make new friendships, we carry over the friendships already in existence. But is he innocent enough to suppose that the French will view with complacency any improvement in our relations with Germany? Let us strive for Arbitration by all means, but don't let us break out into rhapsodies before we know where we are.

WELL SAID!

At the same time, Sir Edward was quite right in pointing out that the incessant increase of armaments must eventually be stopped by the revolt, in every country, of taxpayers who have been too long-suffering with regard to this scandal. But why do not the democracies all over the world organise and combine to impress common sense upon their respective Governments? Or, failing this, why cannot *we* take a firm stand, *whilst we have the means of enforcing it*, and say to Germany, "Stop this (Naval) fooling"?

MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S HEALTH.

We are sorry to say that the latest news respecting the health of the Chancellor of the Exchequer is far from satisfactory. There are more unlikely things than that, acting under medical advice, he may have to resign his present position.

No CRISIS.

There will be no "crisis"; and there will be no wholesale creation of Peers.

The Happiness of Mr. Haldane.

We note with pleasure, not unmixed with scepticism and amusement, that Mr. Haldane said he "should be only too happy if the co-operation of business men could be given" for the scrutiny of public expenditure. But is that more than a pious opinion? It certainly remains very much in the conditional mood, and suggests a doubt whether such co-operation could be given at all. For our part, we are unable to see where the element of doubt comes in. Surely business men do still survive in this country, and would be patriotic enough to give their services if the Government were willing to accept them. But *is* the Government willing? Will it risk the shock to the Party system?

Census Enumerators and their Pay.

The other day we asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury whether it is true that these gentlemen have been notified that although their work will be finished by April 4th, they may have to wait till the end of May before they are paid. Here is the reply:—

> Considering the fact that they are about 35,000 in number and that each claim must be examined and certified by the Registrar and Superintendent-Registrar concerned after comparison with the population enumerated, I do not think that the interval is excessive; but every effort will be made by the Registrar-General to secure payment at the earliest possible date.

We are now dealing with a hundred thousand letters a week! Oh, for that, etc.!

Railway Signalmen.

The President of the Board of Trade is of opinion that there is no need for a second signalman to be placed in every box, and that the present block system obviates any risk of accident in the event of the illness or death of the man on duty. Wait and see.

Servian Susceptibilities.

An actress who appeared on the stage at Belgrade in a harem skirt was hooted off, refused the services of cabmen on the ground that they "could not drive escaped Turkish women," and hustled horribly by a howling mob. It is certainly very remarkable to find so delicate a sense of morality among the Servian people. They are quite prepared to condone murder and mutilation, but they are horrified at the thought of a woman appearing with a few inches of her skirt bifurcated.

Exclusive Pothouses.

We have nothing whatever to say against Italian establishments for the consumption of macaroni and gnocchi and Chianti, but we are sorry to hear that they are becoming rather too big for their boots. Two of our readers recently patronised one of these places in the Strand neighbourhood, with the laudable intention of playing a game of billiards, and called to a marker for a set of balls. To their great astonishment, the marker indignantly refused to allow them to play. In fact he gave them a summary order to clear out. When they meekly asked the cause of this rebuff, he replied very shortly that the proprietor did not allow anyone who wore an uniform to come inside the building. Our friends were wearing the kit of chauffeurs, but we do not understand why that should be regarded as a badge of servitude, or why it should exclude them even if it did. Moreover, before their ejection, they had time to catch a glimpse of a sailor who was engaged in trying to perform the feat of potting the red. Surely a sailor's costume is no less an uniform than that of a chauffeur. Anyhow, we fail to understand why, so long as people behave themselves and have nothing offensive about their raiment, they should be debarred from hiring billiard tables in public places.

Fudge about Foreign Affairs.

We wonder whether people who diligently read the foreign correspondence in the daily papers, and fondly imagine that they are learning all about foreign politics, can be aware of the conditions under which foreign correspondents labour. Any one of them who annoys a Government by the publication of an unpalatable truth is either expelled without a word of explanation or else is harried and boycotted. Passes are refused him on occasions when his duties require him to be present, and information is relentlessly denied to him by the authorities. In next to no time he finds himself useless, or his editor finds out the fact for him, and he has to retire with his tail between his legs. His only chance of earning his living is to remain the servile mouthpiece of the powers that be. The only way to know much about foreign politics is to know every language and take in all the Opposition papers of every country. We should like to engage a large staff of clerks to do this work for us.

Interested Invitations.

It is strange to observe how often distinguished people prefer to lend their names, rather than to give their money, in aid of their favourite charities. One of our readers—a Liverpool solicitor, who does not appear to have been so much impressed by high patronage as he should have been—has declined an invitation from a Royal Personage, as the dinner was to be run on lines which are now becoming too common. You receive a notification that some distinguished person "requests the honour of your company" at a dinner, and nothing is said about any kind of repayment. You might indeed imagine, if you were less shrewd than a Liverpool solicitor, that it was left to your sense of decency to return the compliment and invite your would-be host to take a cutlet with you later on. But you are told a great deal about "that admirable institution," and probably, when you have well drunk, you will observe a Subscription List being handed round to enable you to subscribe for the charity as well as pay for your dinner. This seems to us a roundabout, if not disingenuous way of cadging for subscriptions, and we should like to hear the experiences of somebody who was impudent enough to accept such an invitation and contribute nothing at all.

Grant's Glad Eye.

The gentleman called Grant, the "human X-ray," (to whom we took the liberty of addressing an Open Letter), has been offering to apply his microscopic eye to the internal anatomies of the editors of John Bull and *Truth*, so as to establish his claims to a semi-supernatural power. The editor of *Truth* seems to shrink from surgical experiments and observes jovially, "I have no reason to suppose that any part of Mr. Bottomley's anatomy is out of repair, but should this be the case everybody will be delighted to hear that he has had it renewed." For the moment, we are far too modest to expose ourselves to Mr. Grant's gaze, but we suggest that, if he is anxious to prove his powers, he might well begin upon a number of professional Party politicians, whose names we shall be happy to suggest. And he could start with their heads.

Unto This Last.

On behalf of the Free Church ministers of Newcastle, the Rev. A. E. Bach has appealed to the Burial Board to abolish Sunday funerals. This must be almost the last straw. Having petitioned against Sunday bands, Sunday concerts, and Sunday recreations, one would at least have thought the killjoys would have left alone Sunday funerals, if only to remind us this is a vale of woe and that brief life is here our portion. We are now anxiously waiting for them to organise a monster petition for the abolition of the Sunday dinner.

THERE'S HAIR!

We are glad to notice a public protest against the regulation which compels soldiers to grow face-fungus on their upper lips. It is pointed out that there is nothing especially soldierly about this soup-collecting, microbe-breeding appendage, and that neither Wellington nor Buonaparte affected it; also that sailors and policemen are permitted to consider their faces as their own private property, shaving or not as they please. We see no reason for this distinction, but we congratulate the Navy on their superior liberty, and shall not omit to recall it whenever we hear their friends grumbling about the way the senior service is subordinated to the junior.

EMPIRE MAD.

A number of busybodies are agitating for a trade mark to be applied to all goods produced within the British Empire, and a number of grotesque designs have been suggested, one of them with a caricature of the Royal arms and a monkey-faced lion attempting to remove the Irish harp. For our part, we fail to see any good reason for the proposal. We already have merchandise marks to point out that things are "made in Germany" or other foreign countries. We may, therefore, safely assume that goods not so marked are Empire-made. What need we further witness?

TIME, GENTLEMEN, PLEASE!

Why is England so terribly behindhand in the way of public clocks? It would surely be easy and inexpensive to put up a dial in every important thoroughfare and have it electrically provided with the right time. It is not everybody who carries a watch in these hard times, and it is a nuisance not to be able to know the hour when you have to keep an important appointment. It is also a nuisance to be asked for the time incessantly by small boys and other watchless persons. The refrain of the old song must also be annoying to policemen. We hear a great deal of the progress of science, but there seems to be an unfortunate indifference to applying science to the public comfort.

THE PARTING GUEST.

Major Guest, M.P., is making a name for himself in Milford Haven. Subject to his Parliamentary duties not requiring his presence in London, the Major promised to open a Children's Fancy Fair in connection with a new Infants' School, which the vicar is building. His Parliamentary duties looked like being sufficiently unexacting to enable him to keep this appointment, but at the last moment, despite the fact that the name of the gallant member had been posted for weeks on all the hoardings, he refused to turn up on the ground that, "holding the views he does in regard to State education, it would be inconsistent for him to support a church bazaar." We expected better things than this from the Major. It was scarcely "gallant."

BLESSED ARE THE RICH.

A reader is very angry with us because in a recent issue, under the heading of "Blessed are the Poor," we announced that the Rev. Burleton Jones-Bateman, M.A., of the Rectory, Sheldon, Warwick, had departed this life leaving £93,916. "Did you really expect him to give this money away to the poor, or what should he have done with it?" asks our critic. "It seems to me he has got every bit as much right to it as you or me." We can only speak for ourselves; he had undoubtedly more right to it than we. But even Mr. Andrew Carnegie is getting rid of his wealth as fast as possible because he holds that the man who dies rich dies disgraced; and no doubt the rev. gentleman himself frequently discoursed from Matt. vi. 19, 20, 21. The preacher should be at least equal to his precept; it is so encouraging to others.

DOUGHTY, POWELL AND CO., J.P.'s.

The Tipton Education Committee has been once again the scene of utterly discreditable oratorical acerbities. At the last meeting, Mr. W. W. Doughty, J.P., and Mr. Powell, J.P., called each other "liar." "Mr. Doughty then left his place to withdraw from the room," says the reporter, "and as he was leaving he remarked (addressing Mr. Powell): 'If you were not a magistrate I should challenge you to fight.' The matter then dropped." Of course, had there been a fight they both might have dropped. We really do not see how knowledge can "grow from more to more, but more of reverence in us dwell; that mind and soul, according well, may make one music as before" in Tipton, if the members of its Education Committee, and especially those who are magistrates, behave themselves thus unseemly. It is true King David said in his haste that all men are liars; but the Tipton educationists never need hurry.

A QUESTION FOR EALING.

We are informed that there is at Ealing a public secondary school, the Hall, which opened its doors with twelve scholars five years ago; that the headmaster, starting at £150 a year, now receives a salary of £180; that in addition there are three visiting teachers, and that the number of pupils has decreased since the school opened. If this is true—well, it oughtn't to be.

ATROCIOUS SPORT.

We trust that there is sufficient moral influence in Edinburgh to prevent the repetition of so atrocious an exhibition as that which recently degraded Duddingston, one of its suburbs. At Peffermill House, a number of alleged sportsmen engaged in a pigeon shoot. The birds were thrown up singly out of crates, and shot at from a distance of 25 yards. Comparatively few were killed outright, the majority being brought down wounded, when the noble sportsmen either twisted their necks or bashed in their heads with a sledge hammer. In the first hour-and-a-half, 150 birds lay dead, and from beginning to end this revolting slaughter involved the lives of not less than 500. If we rightly remember, a similar spectacle at one of the pigeon-shooting grounds near London led to such an outcry that the club concerned substituted clay for live pigeons, and that is what should be done in Edinburgh—always assuming that its inhabitants *must* shoot at something.

NATIONAL SPORTING LEAGUE.

There was a splendid gathering of the members of this League at the annual dinner last week. Quite a small army of M.P.'s, representative of all Parties—and of none!—turned up; whilst Marshall Hall was an ideal Chairman. One of the best speeches of the evening was made by Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, M.P.—a young politician with, if we mistake not, a future.

QUITE RIGHT.

Father Vaughan has discovered that it is far more important to the nation that it should have standard morals than that it should have standard bread. Our rev. friend is quite right, but he must make allowances for the varieties of human nature. What is bread in the dough comes out in the dinner. Besides, who is to fix the new standard? We already have the Decalogue.

HORRIFIED HITCHIN.

Ex-Lieutenant Sutor's recent visit to Hitchin to address a meeting of the local Debating Society apparently was too much for that highly-respectable and conventional community, and despite the fact that everybody was talking about it, but few brave spirits dared to put in an appearance. Those who stayed away missed a treat.

An Apology for Sailors' Kid Gloves.

We have been favoured with a copy of a foolish little magazine called *The Optimist*, which is published for the edification of the Yankee flagship *Connecticut*. One of the contributors takes the trouble to assert that there is no need to worry about the Yankee "lantern-jawed bluejackets," that they are not as solemn as they look, and that their apparent gloom when in London was due to the gloominess of London itself. We had always understood that the complaints about the conduct of the sailors during their recent pleasure tour were not directed against their gloom at all. In fact, many of them, both in England and in France, were so rowdy and out of hand that they caused serious anxiety to the authorities. The writer goes on to protest that they "don't want to be beefy," and that, if they wear kid gloves, it is because they can afford to. Of course, Yankees are quite entitled to hold their own views about what constitutes smartness in a sailor, but we should not have thought that a preference for kickshaws over good old English roast beef would improve their physique, or that kid gloves were precisely the emblem of bold sea-rovers. However, it is consoling to learn that "only a very few years ago they won a battle before breakfast." What courage, what contempt of comfort, what zeal for their country's cause! Meanwhile, we give expression to a far-away smile over the complacent statement that England has not yet corrected all her faults, "while America has had one century in which to make herself the greatest nation on the face of the earth, and with all her faults she is the greatest." We live and learn. Hitherto we had always imagined that America was a geographical expression applicable to a couple of continents, and we are still sceptical about her existence as a nation.

The Ankle-Skirt.

We confess we are a bit puzzled and disgusted by the agitation against the so-called harem skirt. It is quite a decent garment, and, in fact, would probably have attracted no notice at all, but for the machinations of mannequins and the sensationalism of scribes. We are credibly informed that women possess two legs, and we cannot for the life of us see why they should be hindered from exercising them without discomfort. Yet directly a few sensible females venture to go about in harmless raiment, they are mobbed by angry crowds, chased into shops, insulted and ridiculed. If they did anything immodest or ridiculous we could make some allowances for this attitude, but, as it is, we fail to see the faintest justification for a form of hooliganism which, oddly enough, is not confined to the kill-joys. Why is everybody so intolerant of everything that appears to be in the least unusual? We are glad that *Mrs. Bull* shares our view.

Who's That a-Calling?

It is not so very long ago that the Rev. Mr. Aked was "called" from England to take charge of the Rockefellian soul. The spiritual prospects being pleasing and the material salary magnificent, it looked as though the reverend gentleman would be able (with the aid of the rock-oil industry) to spread the light. But now he has heard another "Call" in San Francisco, and announces that he is departing thither—unless all sorts of things are done for him. The salary in this new San Francisco "Call" is not at present stated; but as Mr. Aked says he is looking for a wider sphere, it is conjectured that he is not looking for a narrower salary. Does he fear the competition of Dr. Jowett?

Here We Are Again!

According to advices from Paris, our old friend Raisuli, the talented brigand who stole a Scotsman, is again dead. He will bob up again as sure as ever he is alive.

Recantation of Bournemouth.

After much searching of heart and wagging of tongue, the Bournemouth Town Council has decided to permit the public to facilitate the drink traffic in their beach refreshment chalets on Sundays. That is to say, if you chance to spend a Sunday at Bournemouth this year and are hungry and athirst, you will be graciously permitted to pay for a cup of tea and a piece of cake. After this, any outrage will be possible in the holy city. It would not even startle us if somebody were caught whustlin' on the Sawbath. Alderman Beale, the deputy mayor, argued that none of the class whom this innovation was expected to benefit, "no person connected with his establishment, had ever expressed a desire for this cup of tea." The idea of the employees of this sanctified Sabbatarian forming a solemn procession and soliciting his vote and interest in favour of so disastrous a desecration of the Bournemouth Sunday would have been one of the most excruciating events in the history of the town. Doubtless the good alderman would have risen all their wages.

Greek to Us.

The modern Greeks, who are probably descended from Levantine pirates, are now engaged upon another frantic effort to establish their connection with the old Greeks of the Homeric age. They are arguing and struggling about the compulsory imposition of the ancient Greek language, which is very different from the present corrupt jargon. Some of them are proposing to make it a penal offence to publish the New Testament in any language except the original, which was, of course, also quite a debased kind of Greek. What a fine row there will be when English missionaries are run in for circulating the Bible in the modern tongue! And it will be a pretty tough job to enforce by law the use of a particular kind of Greek. What about people who are unable to learn it, or who revert to their mother-tongue in moments of thoughtlessness—say after deep potations of resinous wine? Language, so long as it is not bad language—or not *too* bad!—should be left to individual taste.

A New Departure.

As will be seen from an announcement on another page, we have appointed a Special Provincial Commissioner for the purpose of visiting the principal cities and towns in Great Britain, and obtaining first-hand information on the spot, in regard to questions which, although of a local character, are of public interest. We shall announce from week to week the whereabouts of our Commissioner, and shall be glad if our readers will make a point, wherever possible and desirable, of getting in touch with him.

Police Evidence.

Neither Judge nor Counsel seem to have realised the full importance of the conflict of Police evidence as to whether or not Stinie Morrison was told he was arrested on "a serious charge of suspicion of murder" before he volunteered the statement that "You have accused me of a serious crime—of murder." If on this point the evidence of P.C. Greaves be true, then the evidence of his superior officers who had charge of the conduct of the case must be untrue—and they must have conspired to give false evidence. It must be remembered that this was essentially a police-got-up case, and if they themselves were not above testifying falsely, it is extremely possible that the witnesses they ferreted out were to a great extent influenced by their prompting. The "Greaves" incident combined with the fact that two other witnesses brought forward by the police subsequently admitted they had given false evidence, leaves a nasty taste in the mouth. But, pending appeal, we must not say more.

Reserving Defence.

There was a point in the cross-examination of Stinie Morrison by Mr. Muir where Mr. Justice Darling interfered with a comment which should not have been made. We refer to the suggestion that the prisoner might have gone into the witness-box at the police-court, and given his version of the facts. Surely Mr. Justice Darling knows perfectly well, not only that it is almost the regular procedure for a prisoner to reserve his defence, but, what is of vital importance, that in a Treasury prosecution it would be fatal to his chances of acquittal for him to supply the "Treasury gang" with all the lines of his defence—and thus enable them to patch up the weak spots in their case.

That £100,000 Rembrandt.

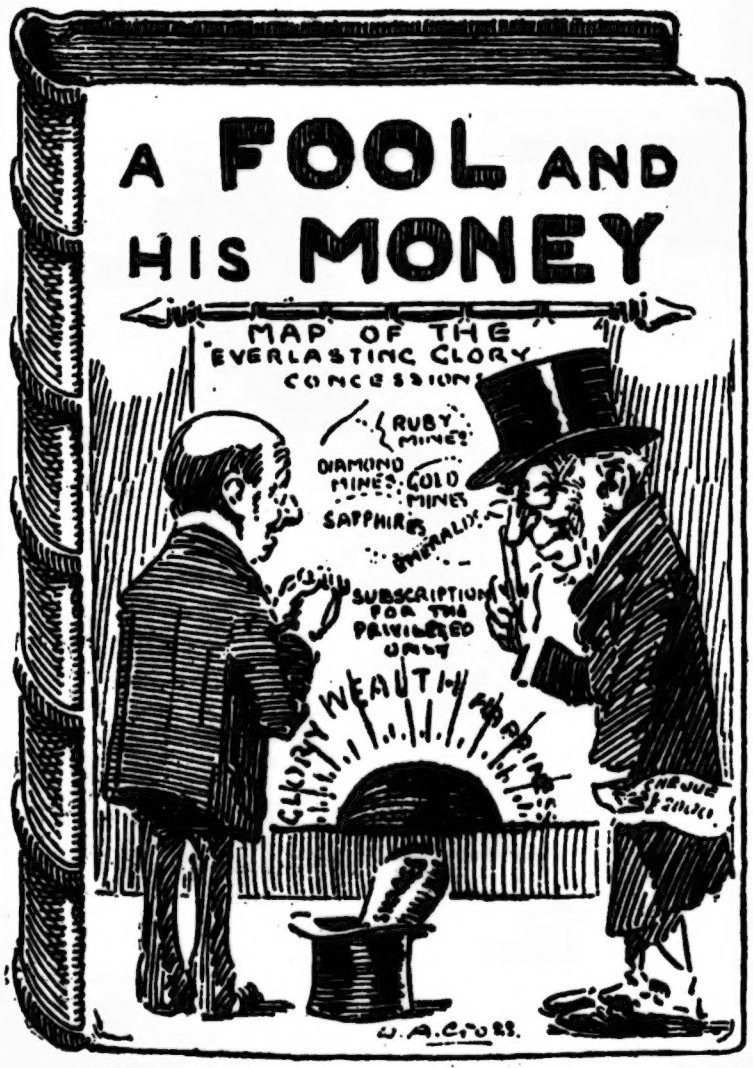
When you come to think of it, it is really very kind of Lord Lansdowne to offer his Rembrandt picture, "The Mill," to the nation for £95,000—£5,000 less than the "firm offer he has received from America"—especially as the price includes the frame and chain. By the tape, the "Mill" works out at £73 10s. a square inch; were it a modern picture, painted by Smith, Brown, Jones, or Robinson, neither Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, nor America would pay £73 10s. a square yard for it. In his day, Rembrandt probably was glad to get it off his hands at a tenner. When he went bankrupt, in 1656, his whole collection of pictures fetched only 5,000 florins. If anybody has £95,000 to spare, and he is willing to give the noble marquis that price for the picture on behalf of the nation, he has our permission to do so; but he could do a great deal more good with it by building another lunatic asylum.

The Week's "Chestnut":—

Railway Passenger (to fellow traveller, who insists on singing in the train): "You ought to be with D'Oyly Carte."

"Why?" (demurely).

"*He is dead!*"



"JOHN BULL'S" BOOKSHELF.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

AGE.—Biscuits are not given to general servants "2 to 22," or to veterans of 8 years of age. The ages of the former are often inscrutable, while the latter may be enjoying their second childhood.

PATENT MEDICINES.—We do not give biscuits to patent medicine vendors for the injunction to the public to get "the same pills as Mr. Robinson had."

BRIDEGROOMS.—No more wedding cake for these harmless necessary adjuncts when they go away "in a costume of rose vieux, trimmed with glace, with a hat to match." They evidently foresee who is destined to wear the breeches, and they are lucky to get away at all.

MARRIAGES IN THE DEATHS' COLUMN.—No biscuits for these. They are often the grave of love.

LODGERS.—No biscuits for widows who want young men to share room. Most of them do.

For advertising in the "Portsmouth Evening News" that he will sell by auction "a large assortment of Wearing apparel, including *drawing and bedroom suites, cabinets, brass cloch, heavy brass-mounted Spanish bedstead,"*

MR. J. ARNOLD (Auctioneer)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in a report of a football match that "the wind was shining in their eyes,"

THE HALIFAX DAILY GUARDIAN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "Although the blind soldier has never seen *his wife, it was a case of love at* first sight,"

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, when referring to a confirmation about to be held, that "Tickets will be issued for the service . . . application for these should be made to the Verger, who will give them out till exhausted,"

THE ALL SAINTS (BATTERSEA PARK) MONTHLY MAGAZINE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating "that in Germany they had stamped out small-pox *by making* measles *a notifiable disease,"*

SIR JOHN GORST (according to the *Daily Chronicle*)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing that "The 1911 *catalogue, together with an illustration in colours of the* all black *Sunbeam, is sent free on application,"*

AN ADVERTISER IN THE *DAILY MAIL*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing an almanack for the current year, showing the second Sunday after Christmas as falling on January 1st, Shrove Tuesday as on February 8th, Good Friday as on March 24th, and the fourth Sunday in Lent as on March 26th,

THE CROMPTON CO-OPERATIVE PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LTD.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its "Cycling Notes" that "Inferior carbide *will give the rider endless trouble with his lamp* wick,"

THE EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For describing houses as being "*whitewashed pink and blue,"

YES OR NO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "The semi-final tie in the Scottish Cup competition between Hamilton Academicals and Dundee was played *yesterday at Hamilton* by 15,000 spectators, *including over* 1,000 *Dundee enthusiasts,"*

THE WEEKLY DISPATCH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Bath Daily Chronicle" "To keep your dog in the pink of condition, you *must feed on Standard Dog Foods,"*

MR. J. M. VAUGHAN (Westgate Buildings, Bath)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—I.

SOME OF ITS METHODS UNMASKED—HOW BUSINESS IS SECURED.

The following revelations will probably cause a shock to all those interested in Industrial Assurance—one of the matters most vitally affecting the working classes of this country. We are not, however, in the habit, when facts in our possession justify plain speaking, of mincing our words; and in the series of articles now commenced it is our intention to probe this great subject to the core. We begin with the leading institution engaged in the business, a mere recital of whose financial history and position should be sufficient to cause reasonable people to ask themselves whether such a state of things could possibly have been brought about by regular, straightforward methods; or whether, on the other hand, the inference is not obvious that the thrifty poor—the class of the community which surely deserves sympathy and encouragement—have been victimised and defrauded of millions of money for the benefit of a small body of shareholders.

The Prudential Office was founded in 1848, with a paid-up capital of £2,500, subsequently increased to £1,000,000. The Company now claims to have assets to the enormous amount of 77½ millions, with an annual premium income of 14 millions, almost equally divided between its Industrial and Ordinary branches. The number of policies issued by the Industrial branch is upwards of 1,600,000; and during the last ten years the shareholders have received more than £5,000,000 in dividends and bonus, representing upwards of 50 per cent. per annum upon the capital. The Company employs 17,500 agents, 600 superintendents and 2,500 assistant superintendents, and boasts by far the largest business of its kind in the world. Indeed, it has come to be regarded as a national institution.

It is with the Industrial branch that we propose to deal—a branch concerned with the poorest and most illiterate section of the community. For months past, we have been receiving complaints as to the way in which this department of the Company's business is conducted, and we have carefully noted what has been revealed in the course of certain legal proceedings, to which less attention has been devoted by the Press than, as it appeared to us, their importance warranted. We have, accordingly, made it our business carefully to investigate the methods of the Company.

The charges we are about to bring against the management of the Industrial section of the Prudential are of the gravest, for they imply heartless imposition, deliberate mis-statements made with the object and intention of inducing the thrifty poor to take out policies, the terms of which they do not understand, to forfeit them after paying large sums in premiums, or to increase payments upon the strength of representations known to be false. Now in a business which rests upon canvassing, there is always the danger of deliberate misrepresentation by men who have to get business somehow, if they are to pay their way. The temptation to exaggerate and mislead must always be present amongst this class of workers; it is part and parcel of their everyday life. Sometimes it is done against the wishes of the controllers of the business; oftener it is done with their connivance. Of course they do not actually instruct their officers to misrepresent, but they let them know that they want, and must have, orders. How those orders are got is the business of the agents, and this state of things applies as much to Assurance business as to any other.

Our charge against the Prudential Assurance Company is not that they specially instruct their agents to stoop to the practices we are about to disclose, but that, knowing these practices to be common, they profit by them and make no real effort to stamp them out.

OUR INDICTMENTS.

Let us, however, state, in plain words, what our charges are:—

The Company and Its Agents.

We begin at the beginning—the relations between the Company and its own agents. We say the agents are victimised by the Company. Let us explain. When an agent "takes up a book," as it is called, he has to deposit, or find sureties for, a sum varying between £15 and £25. The book is then handed to him, and from that moment he is treated as the debtor of the Company for the full amount of premiums which it covers. Suppose the book represents weekly premiums amounting to £10. That sum is at once treated as a debt due to the Company. It does not matter how much of the £10 has become uncollectable—a point upon which the canvasser can have no knowledge before he takes up the book. He has to pay the full amount to the Company! But that is not all. As we shall show later, the Company derives an enormous benefit from lapsed policies; but *no matter how many policies may be forfeited in this way, the unhappy agent has to pay the premium, up to the date of forfeiture*—whilst the Company takes the full benefit of it! No wonder the agents of the Prudential Office have formed a strong Association (affiliated with the Trades Union Congress) to look after their own interests!

This is charge number one, but serious as it is, it sinks into insignificance when compared with others we have to make.

Obtaining Business by Fraud.

We turn to the way in which a portion of the business of the Company is obtained. We say it is obtained by methods open to the gravest moral objection. We say that the Company has deliberately connived at, and profited by, cruel and pitiful misrepresentation on the part of its agents and canvassers. Strong charges indeed for any journal to bring against a great financial institution! But we bring them, and we stand by them. The chief offenders are a body of "Special Canvassers," or "Policy Inspectors" as they are alternatively called. These are men (sometimes ex-agents—sometimes, indeed, ex-agents who have been dismissed on account of irregularities) who are engaged by the district superintendents and other local officers, to "buck up" business. In the words of one of the Directors of the Company, some districts require "a spur now and again," and the Special Canvassers act as "a tonic" to the ordinary agents! They go round with them, telling all sorts of specious tales, and in many cases all sorts of deliberate lies, with a view either to getting new business or jockeying the poor policy-holders out of their rights. It may be said that the Company is not responsible for the action of these men. But that will not do. Their names are all known at head quarters, and, as we have already said, they are regarded by the managers as a

desirable "tonic." In addition to this, agents are retained in the service of the Company even after Courts of Law—Judge and Jury—have exposed their fraudulent practices. No doubt it will come as a surprise to our readers to know that the Court has ordered the return of premiums on the ground that the policies were obtained by fraud, and even forgery, and that the documents have been impounded by the Judge. Yet the very men thus implicated still remain in the service of the Company!

That is our second charge.

Lapsed Policies.

Our third charge is that the Company resorts to every kind of questionable method to effect the "lapsing" of policies—that is to say, their forfeiture after the poor and thrifty holders have paid premiums for a considerable period. Indeed, it is by virtue of these lapses that the Industrial branch of the business is largely kept going. Just look at the figures. On a total Premium Income of £14,000,000 a year, the expenses of management, etc., come to nearly £4,000,000. But then half of the Income consists of Ordinary insurance business, the expenses of which are obviously much lighter, which means that the cost of carrying on the Industrial section, with an annual Income of £7,000,000, is probably nearly three-and-a-half millions, or 50 *per cent. of the Income.* Could any Insurance business continue to exist on these lines unless its coffers were constantly replenished by "lapsed" policies? Unfortunately, the law does not at present require any Return from Industrial Assurance Companies of the amounts received from this cruel source of income. Were such a Return required in the case of the Prudential—a Return showing the total number of policies forfeited and the total amount received by the Company in respect of such policies—we do not hesitate to say that the result would startle the public. Equally indignant will they be when they learn of the devices resorted to by the Prudential's Special Canvassers and Policy Inspectors to wheedle policies out of the hands of poor people who have paid premiums for years upon them, by means of all kinds of plausible misrepresentations—the ultimate aim in each case being to secure the lapse of the policy, in order that the Company may pocket the premiums already paid.

That is our third charge.

Other Charges.

We think we have said enough in this issue—assuming the facts bear out our allegations—to justify the strong language we had used. We are, however, now engaged in investigating various other practices of the Company, and shall in due course publish the result of our enquiries into Illegal Insurances, "Bonusing" Policies, etc.

Our Evidence.

We need scarcely say that we do not make these charges without a full sense of the deep responsibility resting upon us; nor without having taken every possible means of verifying the evidence upon which they are based. We have interviewed past and present agents of the Company; we have conferred with policyholders; we have carefully studied the records of various actions which have been brought in recent years against the Company; we have interviewed agents and ex-agents and, finally, we have submitted our evidence to our own legal advisers. In ordinary circumstances we should not think it necessary to give this explanation, but, having regard to the importance of the matter, we have felt it due to our readers and the public generally, to show that we have not lightly entered upon the task to which we have set our hands, and from which, come what may, we shall not flinch.

THE TAFT-GREY NONSENSE.

A CLEVER RUSE TO HOODWINK THE LITTLE NAVYITES.

It may be granted that if Arbitration could do away with war, most of us would be in favour of it; but he must be a sanguine man who can convince himself that at this stage of human development Arbitration can supersede fighting. It seems to be forgotten that the universal acceptance of Arbitration, or, as Mr. Taft would call it, a Court of Honour, would mean the maintainence of the *status quo.* Obviously, no nation would consent at the bidding of a Court of Honour, or at any bidding that did not come from a victorious enemy, to a rectification of its frontiers by which it would be a loser. It follows that a Court of Honour to decide disputes between great nations would only be possible if every State had abandoned the hope of aggrandisement. France must abandon the hope of recovering Alsace and Lorraine; Germany must abandon the hope of incorporating Belgium, or a portion of it; Russia must abandon the hope of penetrating Persia and Manchuria; Austria must abandon the hope of annexing Servia and Montenegro; Italy must abandon the hope of ever occupying Trieste. It is all very well for the United States to propose a Court of Honour. The United States have more territory than they want. But in their relations with other countries they have been as grasping, and as unscrupulous, as any of the reactionary States of Europe, and the massing of troops upon the Mexican frontier, and the assembly of American men-of-war in a Mexican and friendly port, do not suggest that where American interests are concerned the Government of the United States hesitate longer than any other to throw the sword into the scale if only they are persuaded that the sword is sharp enough.

Another statement made in the "momentous" speech seems to us to be highly dangerous and objectionable. Answering in anticipation the objection that even if two nations came to the agreement suggested they might "still be exposed to attack from a third nation who had not entered into an agreement," Sir Edward Grey said:—"I think it (the agreement) would probably lead to their (the two nations) following it up by an agreement that they would join with each other in any case in which one only had a quarrel with a third Power by which arbitration was refused. . . . An agreement of that kind, so sweeping as that, if proposed to us we should be delighted to have such a proposal; but I should feel it was something so momentous and so far-reaching in its possible consequences that it would require not only the signature of both Governments, but the deliberate and deciding sanction of Parliament. That, I believe, would be obtained."

We, on the contrary, should be very much surprised if Parliament sanctioned this highly-dangerous arrangement. For what is it Sir Edward Grey proposes? Not only does he suggest that, say, England and France should come to an arrangement in which all questions, whether of honour, territory, or money which might arise between them would be settled by Arbitration, but that if, say, France got at loggerheads with Germany on some matter in which England has no concern, and Germany refused to go to Arbitration, then England would be forced to join France in war with Germany.

Now let us see how that remarkable proposal would work out. Assuming the agreement as to the Court of Honour between England and France to be in operation, France comes to the conclusion that she is strong enough to fight Germany, and so makes a demand upon Germany for the retrocession of Alsace and Lorraine. Germany refuses. France then calls upon her to go to Arbitration. Germany refuses. France then declares war against Germany, and she does so because she knows that under an existing agreement England is bound to come to her aid. Is that what any party in England wants? Can such an arrangement be defended upon any conceivable ground of public policy? Would Parliament sanction an Arbitration Treaty with, say, Italy, which would bind England to go to war with Austria if Austria refused some demand of Italy, and declined to go to Arbitration? The thing is inconceivable. We are all for peace, but Sir Edward Grey's suggestion is better fitted for a youthful debating society than an assembly of the representatives of the nation.

BOTTOMLEY *v.* FERGUSON.

DEFENDANT UNRESERVEDLY WITHDRAWS, APOLOGISES AND PAYS COSTS.

As our readers are probably aware, Mr. Bottomley instituted against Mr. Hugh Ferguson, a town councillor of Motherwell, and a former magistrate of that town, an action for libel in respect of the publication of scurrilous phrases, amongst other things, purporting to express certain opinions of Mr. Justice Avory. At its hearing by Lord Cullen, in the Edinburgh Court of Session on Monday last, Mr. Ferguson unreservedly withdrew all charges against Mr. Bottomley and John Bull, declared them to be untrue and without foundation, apologised for having made them, and consented to a verdict for the Plaintiff with costs—Mr. Bottomley stating that, in view of the abject nature of the apology, he would waive damages. The result was received with cheers in a crowded court. Mr. Ferguson conducted his own case, whilst Mr. Cooper, K.C., appeared for Mr. Bottomley.

"GLASGOW SHOP REGULATIONS."

A Glasgow render sends the following reply to our recent paragraph under the above heading:—

> It is hardly correct to call this a "Glasgow" regulation. It is simply the way the "Shop Hours Act" works out in practice. A majority of the Grocers and provision dealers determine to close at 8 o'clock, and a closing order being made out to that effect, all who retail articles which are defined by the Act, as belonging to these trades *must* close; or, if the shop is kept open after the hour named in the closing order, it must be only for the sale of goods which do not come under the closing order. Why didn't your correspondent and his wife get their butter and eggs *before* they went for their walk?
>
> Perhaps they think shopkeepers don't need a walk themselves. Shop hours are far too long as it is, and it is selfish people like your correspondent who have made compulsory closing necessary.

Our correspondent misses the point. We do not wish to *compel* anyone to keep his shop open—merely to *allow* him to do so.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AND TRADESMEN.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF TAMMANYISM IN THIS COUNTRY.

Our readers will doubtless remember the comments we made upon the proposed attempt by the members of the Bristol Municipal Officers' Association to obtain various discounts from traders. We are glad to say that after our comments this particular scheme was dropped.

We notice, however, in the *L.G.O.* ("The Official Organ of the National Association of Local Government Officers") a paragraph calling "the attention of members to the special terms of all premiums offered to them by the Royal Insurance Company." On another page is given the following list of firms "offering liberal discounts to members through the thrift section":—

> Cycles—Centaur, Humber, Premier, Singer and Swift; Rose Trees, etc.—B. R. Cant and Sons; the Civil Service Stores: whilst the names of the firms are not stated in regard to the following commodities—Tailoring and Footwear; Jewellery; Furniture; Athletic outfits; Guns; Coals; Pictures, Artists' materials; Fishing tackle.

The objections to municipal officials receiving such special discounts apply with even stronger force to Local Government officers.

ANOTHER MILITARY CIRCUS.

A WORD OF WARNING TO EX-SERVICE MEN.

A person describing himself as Charles Howard, Secretary of the Military and Naval Tournament Co., Ltd., with an address at Room 20, Central House, Aldgate, is making strenuous efforts to obtain from soldiers and sailors some of their hard-earned money. We advise them to have nothing to do with this man.

BLESSED ARE THE POOR.

SOME RECENT CLERICAL WILLS.

The following particulars of deceased clergymen's estates have appeared in the newspapers between February 4th and March 2nd. Evidently these good men did not believe in practising what they preached—"Sell all thou hast and give to the poor." "Lay not up for thyself treasure upon earth." "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God":—

Rev.	Burleton Jones-Bateman	£93,916
,,	Montagu Earle Welby	67,851
,,	Samuel Bryan Crowther-Beynon	64,792
,,	Canon Arthur Henry Faber	57,356
,,	Richard Arthur Walls	32,637
,,	Robert Rowley Watts	27,059
,,	William Monro Wollaston	22,567
,,	Francis Edmund William Wilmot	20,420
,,	Canon Percival Hart Dyke	17,827
,,	Francis Capper Clutterbuck	16,330
,,	William Norton Milnes	16,152
,,	Henry Townsend Sale	15,747
Very Rev.	Dr. James MacGregor	14,822
Rev.	Ernest Whitmore Simpson	14,647
,,	John Evan Davies	13,553
,,	George Tonge	12,020
,,	Frederick Lipscomb	11,385
,,	Robert Sparke Hutchings	8,984
,,	Richard Lockwood Giveen	8,984
,,	Walker Flower	8,308

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

In a recent article directing attention to the short weight given by a certain company, we asked, "What are the Inspectors of Weights and Measures about?" We have now received a letter from the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of a large town, and he very naturally says our question in the minds of most readers would imply "laxity of duty on the part of these officers," and he proceeds to show why this very natural inference does injustice to the Inspectors concerned.

As a matter of fact, what our correspondent says is quite correct. It is not the Inspectors who are at fault as much as the law of Weights and Measures; short weight is possible—not because the officers neglect their duty, but because the law fails to give them the necessary powers.

It is surprising, but it is none the less true, that these Inspectors in England have no official power to summon detected cases of short weight and have no power to weigh, or cause to be weighed, any made up parcels of goods—except bread or coal—which may be offered or exposed for sale.

The Weights and Measures Act only gives the above-named officials power to summon for (*a*) unstamped or unjust scales, weights and measures, and (*b*) for "wilfully" committing fraud in the use of scales, weights, or measures.

In England the only means for prosecuting cases of short weight is by procedure under the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, under which Act an Inspector of Weights and Measures has no *locus standi* except as a common informer, and in which case who becomes responsible for expenses incurred.

Scotland is far ahead of England, as there the sale of made-up parcels of goods is governed by the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, and the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1905. It is very desirable that similar protective legislation for England should be passed.

THE REWARD OF PATRIOTISM.

The paragraph under the above heading, although by no means inserted as a Human Document, has been taken as such by "M." who sends us £2 with a request that we will forward it to the ex-Guardsman Coe. This we have done, and in acknowledging its receipt Coe writes: "At the time it arrived we had 2½d. all told in the house. Although I do not wish to let anyone know our present position I can assure 'M.' that his postal order came in extremely handy."

A "BOTTOMLEY MINISTRY."

"VANNOC" OF "THE REFEREE" ON A BUSINESS GOVERNMENT.

Writing in "Our Handbook" in *The Referee* of March 12th, "Vannoc" makes the following observations on the subject of a Business Government:—

> The call for a Business Government is one that I have raised for many years. It is now brought to the front by Mr. Bottomley, whom I never met and with whom I am united only by common antipathies. There is no question but that, whatever his defects, Mr. Bottomley has made this cry for a business Government a live question. I heard the other day of two able young men, both of them heads of large firms, who went down to the Albert Hall to criticise and, possibly, to interrupt the proceedings at a meeting of the John Bull League. They listened to Mr. Bottomley for an hour and a half and came away converts. I suggest to the leaders of the Unionist Party that unless they can shunt Mr. Balfour and the fossils, men like Mr. Bottomley will attain control of the situation. A Bottomley Ministry might be a calamity, but not such a calamity as a Ministry in the grip of the Socialists and kicked by the Irish Nationalists on that portion of the back where—as the French say—it changes its name. Lookers-on see most of the game. Power is being squandered, misdirected, or allowed to lie dormant when every ounce of energy must be utilised, generated, and directed towards the maintenance of the Monarchy and the Double Chamber. It is not good to change horses when you are crossing a stream, but when the horses are not in the stream but are asses braying on the bank, the sooner they are changed for horses the better for Britain.

Wait and see!

THOSE GUARDIANS!

LOCAL WORK FOR LOCAL MEN, IN EXCELSIS.

The Guardians of the St. Albans Union, requiring the services of a relieving officer, advertised the vacancy in the *Poor Law Officers' Journal*. One of the candidates selected to be interviewed by the Board tells us that, on the 16th March, he, with seven others, attended the meeting. Of the eight candidates, three were local men (a printer's reader, a builder's clerk—"whom we learned upon arrival was to have the appointment"—and an assistant schoolmaster); the other five were London Poor Law Officers of long experience. The builder's clerk was, as anticipated, appointed, though he had absolutely no practical knowledge of the working of the Poor Law, but perhaps the fact that he was an auditor of the local Foresters' Lodge may have been considered as qualifying. Our correspondent enters, on behalf of the five London men, a very strong protest against being dragged to St. Albans, when the Guardians had already made up their minds. The St. Albans ratepayers, who have been put to the expense of the candidates' railway fares, surely also have a right to say something.

Rumour has it that the official who has just been pensioned is going to be kept on temporarily under some pretence, to instruct the new man in his duties.

What does Mr. Burns say to the matter?

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

FALLING IN LOVE—AND OUT.

(*Dr. Josiah Oldfield says that love is as good a health-restorer as a week at Brighton, and that there are few things more valuable than falling in love.*)

Falling in love is healthy; so
A doctor wise asserts;
But love is like an aeroplane—
It's the falling out that hurts!

A REFINED REPARTEE.

(*A Kentish bench of justices dismissed a charge of stealing on the ground that the winkle is a wild animal.*)

The Cockney humorist accepts
This dictum as a wrinkle;
When 'Arry's called a "giddy whelk,"
He'll counter with "wild winkle."

RICARDO.

ANTICIPATED EPITAPHS.

BY W. M.

In Memorie of
YE RIGHT HONOURABLE ARTHUR JAMES BALFOUR, P.C., F.R.S., D.L., M.P.
For manie years Leader
Of Their Majesties' Opposition in Parliament.
After
A varied and wayward
Politickal Career in hys earlie youth;
In ye course of which hee flirted outrageously with
Ye "Fourth Party,"
Hee became,
in 1887,
Chiefe Secretary for Ireland,
Whereof ye happie and contented people
Affectionately dubbed hym
"Bloodie" Balfour.
A past-master of evasion,
Hee long eluded ye chains
Wherewith ye Protectionist Party
Sought to bind hym:
And when on one occasion
Hys pursuers
Flattered themselves that they hadde cought hym
They found
To their astonishment
That hee had evanished,
Leavinge in their hands nought butte
A halfe-sheete of note-paper.
Agile in debate,
Hee was able to turne hys opponents' hardest blows
Against themselves,
And to change with a worde
The exultant cheeres of hys enemies
(Rejoicing too soone)
Intoe mutteringes
Of disappointed wrath.
Gentle of disposition,
Milde of manner,
Onlie after foozlinge a ball on St. Andrew's
Golf Lynks
(Whereof hee was Captaine)
Was hee ever knowne
To lose hys temper.

Pause, passinge Stranger, on this spotte,
Where slumbers one renowned,
Who, when hee list, coulde give itt hotte,
And smyle atte ye rebounde:
Though *suaviter in modo*, hee
Was far from *fortiter in re*.

PITY THE POOR EDITOR.

MORE GEMS FROM OUR LETTER BAG.

Will you please publish in your paper the date on which Lord Dundonald entered Ladysmith in February, 1900?

A respectably dressed young man travels by the same train every morning. He has a great fancy for curling the hair upon his upper lip. He also has the dirty habits of picking his nose and sucking his teeth. Don't you think this is offensive to other passengers?

Express your clear views on the subject embracing tenure to the feudal system and whether in your opinion all lands of copyhold or customary tenure should be converted freehold by Act of Parliament, and how it could be brought about?

Do you think there is any chance of the first China war prize money ending 1840 ever being paid?

"DOVER AND A SUNDAY TRAMWAY SERVICE."

We are very pleased that the wish expressed in a paragraph, under the above heading, in last week's issue, has been fulfilled—the Dover ratepayers deciding, by 3,074 votes to 1,910, to run the municipal trams on Sundays. They have thus thrown off the chains of Chadband, with a loud clang!

A WORD WITH THE BISHOP OF EXETER.

A DEVONSHIRE CLERICAL SCANDAL.

Recently some papers were submitted to us with respect to the action of the Bishop of Exeter in the matter of the Vicarage of Peyhembury, a hamlet in the heart of Devonshire.

About the year 1867 the Rev. George Terry Moulton Messiter-Terry became Vicar of Peyhembury, and remained Vicar until his death in December, 1907. Mr. Messiter-Terry was patron of the living, and a land-owner. Unmarried, he was one of those clergymen who bring great discredit upon the Church to which they belong. Devonshire is rather noted for parsons of the hard-drinking sort, but as a rule, as in the case of the well-known "Jack" Russell, they are not only hard drinkers but hard riders; and if now and again, or perhaps very frequently in days gone by, they drank more than was good for them, they were usually fine fellows at heart, though little fitted for the duties appertaining to the ministry. But the Rev. George Messiter-Terry was in a different category. He not only drank hard—he could not carry his liquor as a good man should. In the last few years of his life he was hardly ever sober, and when he was drunk he was often very disgracefully drunk. Thus, on one occasion, when officiating at a marriage, he dropped the ring and fell prostrate on the Altar in his attempt to recover it. On another occasion, when attending at a wedding breakfast, he fell under the table, was removed to a back room, and subsequently carried home in his brougham dead drunk. At another wedding he began reading the Burial Service. He would go to Exeter on market days and come back quite drunk, and would invite railway porters and others to drink with him when they offered to assist him to his carriage. Up and down the line he was known as the "drunken parson," and he died of *delirium tremens*.

A Drunken and Profligate Vicar.

But the Rev. G. T. M. Messiter-Terry was not only a hopeless drunkard, he was a shameless debauchee, a profligate who never paid the homage that vice of the more decorous sort pays to virtue. Whenever he saw a woman he was after her, and he ruined many in his parish. His taste was catholic. Whether it was an unmarried girl, a married woman, or a woman of the street, it was much the same to him.

A layman is tempted to ask, after reading such a record, how it came that for so many years the Rev. G. T. M. Messiter-Terry was permitted by his diocesan to remain Vicar of Peyhembury. His conduct was the talk of the country side, but we can find nothing to show that the Bishop of Exeter ever instituted enquiry into it.

What some of the parishioners thought of the late Vicar may be gathered from a card scattered about Peyhembury after his death. It runs:—

> Important Notice.
>
> The late Vicar's harem are requested to be ready for examination the last week in October. For information, apply to Lucy, Chief Harlot, or the Mayor, Brooks' Cottages.

Inducting the Curate.

For some ten years before the death of the late Vicar hi duties were performed by a Curate, the Rev. H. Parry- and it was a matter of common knowledge that Mr. Messiter Terry had promised Mr. Parry the living. So far as we know, Mr. Parry had no claim upon the Vicar, either of relationship or old friendship, but last autumn he was installed as the new Vicar of Peyhembury.

Prior to his induction, Mr. A. E. Tooze, a Barrister, now residing in London, wrote to the Bishop of Exeter protesting against the induction. Mr. Tooze objected on the ground that the Rev. H. Parry was—

> for 12 years the acting Curate in the parish and was privy and party by silent acquiescence to the evil doings of the Vicar, that he was present in the Church and at the administration of the Holy Sacrament, and at weddings and other 'Holy Functions' in connection with the Church, when he knew and saw his Vicar was not, as the result of excessive drink, in a fit and proper state to be present.

And that—

> Such a man, being so closely associated with his Vicar, by his silence condoned and became a party to his Vicar's evil doings, and is not a fit and proper person to take over the cares and duties of the Parish at the present moment.

The Bishop's Logic.

Now before we go any further we wish to make it quite plain that so far as we know, Mr. Parry is, and has always been, a man of very sober life, who held aloof from the orgies of his Vicar, and who drinks nothing stronger than water. Nor have we heard a word to suggest immoral conduct on his part. But the fact remains that Mr. Parry was the Curate of a man who week by week was disgracing his cloth, and bringing discredit upon the Church, and we think it will be admitted that it was in a peculiar degree the duty of the Bishop of Exeter to make very careful enquiry into Mr. Parry's conduct as Curate, and to satisfy himself beyond the possibility of doubt that nothing in that conduct was open to censure, before he inducted Mr. Parry as Vicar of a parish which, from the spiritual point of view, had gone to pieces owing to the misconduct of the late Vicar. It may be, for aught we know, that the Bishop of Exeter made enquiries which satisfied him that he might properly induct the Rev. H. Parry, but if a contrary opinion is held the Bishop has only himself to blame. For what was his reply to Mr. Tooze? It was not that he had made enquiries into the grave charges brought by that gentleman against Mr. Parry and found them baseless; the Bishop's answer is to be found in a letter dated January 27th, 1911, wherein he writes:—

> You allege that certain charges which you make ought to be enquired into. These charges are for the most part charges against a dead man, which you are well aware I could not enquire into. Your charge against Mr. Parry is that he was for 12 years the acting Curate in this parish and was privy and party by silent acquiescence to the evil doings of the late Vicar. It is obvious that no proceedings could be based on such a charge.

A Question to the Bishop.

Obvious! Can the Bishop of Exeter really mean what he writes? Suppose Mr. Parry had been guilty of the offence with which Mr. Tooze charges him, does the Bishop of Exeter really mean to say it is "obvious" that no proceedings could be based on such conduct? A clergyman of the Church of England is charged with being a party to the orgies of his Vicar, and the Bishop tells us that, even though it were true—it is "obvious" that it is no concern of his when he is asked to authorise the induction of the person so charged. Assuming Mr. Tooze's statement to be true that Mr. Parry "was present in the church and at the administration of the Holy Sacrament" by his Vicar when the Vicar was drunk—we do not say it is true—does the Bishop think that Mr. Parry did well to remain silent? The charge, be it remembered, does not deal with a single, isolated case, when the Curate might well have sought to hide the Vicar's sin. The charge is that the condonation was persistent, that it extended over many years. Is it the Bishop of Exeter's opinion that such conduct is "wholesome and godly," a "pattern for the people to follow"? And if not,—and Mr. Tooze can prove his facts—how does he justify induction?

There is only one other matter to which we desire to refer in connection with Peyhembury. We have before us the January number of the Parish Magazine for Broadhembury, Peyhembury, Plymtree, and Talaton, and we take from it the following.—

> At a Vestry meeting held on December 8th, a petition for a minor faculty to insert a stained glass window and a brass tablet in the Parish Church in memory of the late Vicar, the Rev. G. T. M. Messiter-Terry, was approved.

The Window and Tablet.

We are informed that this faculty has since been obtained, or if not actually obtained, that no objection is likely to be made to it. After what we have said, it need hardly be explained that the window and tablet are not to be put in by the general body of parishioners; the cost is to be defrayed by a Mr. J. Mathew, a solicitor (to whom the late Vicar left half his estate), and a niece, Miss Peck. But how has the Ordinary brought himself to think it meet and seemly to sanction a stained glass window, and a brass tablet, in the parish church of Peyhembury in honour of the Rev. G. T. M. Messiter-Terry? It seems to us, as we are sure it will seem to every reader, an outrage, an insult not only to the Supreme Being in whose honour this church was erected, but to every worshipper in it, that the life of a drunken debauchee should be commemorated in the way proposed. Does the Bishop disagree?

THE BOARD OF TRADE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

ITS ERRATIC SURVEYORS AND FARCICAL LIFEBOAT REGULATIONS.

There are certain hard and fast rules laid down for the survey of vessels for life-saving, lights and passenger certificates, but these rules are interpreted differently by different surveyors in different ports.

Some time since a vessel was ordered and under construction at Belfast. She was built under the Passenger Act Regulations, the owners' superintendent having previously a great deal of trouble at the home port, the Board of Trade surveyors making unnecessary alterations after she had been passed by the Board's surveyors at their building port. He therefore took the precaution to notify in writing to the Board of Trade in Belfast that he had specially inserted in the specification that she was to be passed and built to comply with the Board's regulations at all ports, and stated that, after they had passed her, he should positively refuse to make any alterations to the vessel, her outfit or construction, unless the Rules and Regulations had been in the meantime amended.

The vessel was passed, received the Board of Trade Passenger Certificate, and sailed for three voyages, at the end of which—in about 13 months' time—she being due for the renewal of her passenger certificate, she was placed in dry dock, at a South Wales port, the Board of Trade was notified, and the fees (about £20) were paid.

The surveyor came on board and commenced his survey. After passing practically all the vessel, he came to examining the lights, etc., and he then at once condemned the two lighthouses at the forecastle head, and demanded that they should be heightened or the forecastle rails cut and altered.

The superintendent refused to do either, and gave him a copy of the letter he had addressed to the Board's surveyors at Belfast. Protests, however, were of no avail, and after a deal of delay the Board issued a form stopping the vessel until the lighthouses were altered. The work was then done, at a cost of about £22.

A letter was addressed to the Board in London, stating the facts, reminding the authorities that no alteration had been made in the light regulations, that the fees had been paid to have the vessel's lights (among other things) put in order, and stating that either the Belfast or Welsh surveyor was wrong. For once, the Board of Trade were compelled to refund the cost of the alterations.

With regard to the life-saving regulations, can any practical or sane person explain why a steamer, without a passenger certificate (that is, forbidden to take more than twelve passengers) is required to have *under davits* on each side, sufficient boat accommodation to carry all her crew and passengers—whereas in a vessel with a passenger certificate the boat accommodation is reckoned upon a tonnage basis, and the boat accommodation is reckoned upon *both* sides of the vessel?

PENSIONS AND PENSIONS.

Our attention has been directed to the pensions paid to the widows and children of the brave firemen who recently lost their lives in the Bankside fire, and that paid to the widow and posthumous child of the late Sergeant Bentley, who lost his life in the Houndsditch shooting affray.

The widow of each fireman is to receive £26 per annum, or 10s. per week, plus 1s. 6d. for each child. Sergeant Bentley's widow received 30s. per week, plus 5s. for the child!

Not for the first time by many the L.C.C. shows up badly in a matter of humanity.

THE "JOHN BULL" BIOSCOPE.

A series of Bioscope views, depicting how JOHN BULL and MRS. BULL are produced, is being shown in various towns and cities on the cinematograph of the "John Bull Entertainment." To-day (Thursday) the car will be in Woodford; Friday, Romford; Saturday, Ilford; Monday, Dagenham; Tuesday, Canning Town; Wednesday, Kennington; and readers and their friends in the districts should not fail to see these well-known periodicals "in the making."

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CXXXIV.

A BLIND WOMAN'S PATHETIC APPEAL.

The following letter speaks for itself. All we have to add is that we have visited "the home" and made other enquiries, and find the case to be genuine. Perhaps some of our readers can find the man work. We shall be happy to put them in touch with him:—

I write to ask you if you could help me. I am in great trouble. My husband is out of work, and I have got four little children—ages 7, 5, and 3 years and 18 months. Now I am not able to go out to work as I am nearly blind. Could you find some work to give my husband, or perhaps some of your readers could give him something to do? He is willing to do anything. He has got ten years' good reference, and is a teetotaler, also myself. I have never touched drink all my life. You can enquire into our characters. We are nearly starving, and we shall have to sell what little home we have got left to pay our rent, and so shall have to walk the streets if nothing turns up. God knows my poor husband has tried everywhere to get work. He has got his name on the Labour Exchanges, and also at the Town Hall; but has not had anything from these—not a day's work. I do appeal to you for my children's sake. My husband is going into a decline and heart failure, through worry of being out of work and not enough food. You can see my husband if you like. I only wish I could do something to save our home. Please will you think it over, for I am in great trouble. I do not want to go into the workhouse to part from my husband and my poor little children. Hoping you will not be offended with me for writing to you, but I need a friend.

We have received, and duly remitted, the following:—

CXXIX.—T. McE., 4s.; "Rica," 5s.; "Little Maisie," 3s.; "A Fellow Sufferer," 1s. 6d.

CXXXI.—"Jessica," 2s. 6d.

CXXXII.—R. C., 1s.; A. A., 2s. 6d.; R. N., 1s.; "Bwtd.," 1s.; J. K. D., 2s. 6d.; "Sympathiser," 5s.; "Sympathiser," 2s.; J. H., 1s.; A. E. B., 2s.; "Rhoda," 1s.; L. E., 3s. 6d.; "Ellen R.," 1s.; H. W., 1s.; T. McE., 4s.; M. D., 5s.; "Russell W. K. H.," 2s. 6d.; R. E. H., 1s.; "Mrs. Cecil," 3s. 6d.; N. P., 2s. 6d.; P. S. D., 1s. 6d.; "Sympathy," 2s.; "A Widow," 2s. 6d.; "Ireland," 2s. 6d.; G. C. E., 10s.; "Grateful Mother," 2s. 6d. J. M. K., 1s.; E. & A., 1s.; P. S., 2s.; A. C. T., 1s.; W. O. A., 1s. 6d.; "Anonymous," £1; "Fag," 2s. 6d.; "Tom," 2s. 6d.; H. P., 2s. 6d.; "Tommy Had," 2s. 6d.; F. M. F., 10s.; "Babs," 3s.; "Leslie," 2s. 6d.; M. J. P., £1; "Beatrice," 1s.; W. O. D., 1s.; L. M., 2s. 6d.; J. C., 2s. 6d.; "Cornishwoman," 4s.; A. W. H., 2s. 6d.; W. & B., 2s.; A. D., 5s.; "Telephone Jack," 2s. 6d.; "Socios," 2s. 3d.; "Aide," 1s.; M. & E. S., 5s.; "Doncaster," 1s.; J. A., 2s.; W. B. P., 2s.; K. & G., 2s.; "Lent Self-Denial," 6s.; M. B. G. F., 5s.; C. & E., 3s.; G. E. M., 3s.; T. W. R., 1s.; "Anon," 1s.; "Ernst," 10s.; W. E. L., 5s.; "Charlie," 21s.

CXXXIII.—"Honest Freemason," 5s.; J. J. J., 1s. 6d.; "Atheist Sympathiser," 2s. 6d.; "Malita," 21s.; "Bismillah," 2s.; "Elstow," 1s.; "Rumbler," 2s. 6d.; "A Soldier," 2s.

THE MALVERN MISSION EXPLAINS.

In "Human Document CXXXII." the following statement was made:—"I applied to the lady of the Malvern Mission for a Church Army ticket, and was told that they did not like to give them away, as they were too expensive."

Upon publication, the principal of the Mission sent us the following statement of what they had done for the man:—"Four soup tickets a week for two months; Miss 'J' tried to get the man work. Wife had several days' work at Mission."—The man informs us that she worked from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m., for which she received 1s. 6d.—"One grocery ticket value 1s. Wife got a place in service, but on account of having a child aged three years it was impossible for her to keep it. One ticket for a day's work in the Church Army Wood-yard was given to the man; he earned 3s. 11d. When he applied for a second ticket, it was refused on the grounds that they had none."

This quite bears out the man's statement that he was refused a ticket. No doubt the Mission rendered what help it could—we never said otherwise—but we fail to see that this statement has put a "different complexion on the matter."

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page ii. of Cover.

"MASTERMAN, THE WHITEWASHER."

THE EX-SCHOOLMASTER OF THE HESWALL REFORMATORY ACCUSES THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF GARBLING THE EVIDENCE.

Shortly after the appearance of the Open Letter to Mr. Masterman, in our issue of March 11, we received a letter from Mr. Ronald Adam—the ex-Schoolmaster of the Heswall (Akbar) Reformatory, upon whose statements we largely relied when publishing our recent exposures. In this letter he declared that his evidence, given during the recent Home Office enquiry, had been misrepresented in Mr. Masterman's Report. We thereupon invited Mr. Adam to place a full statement before us—and here it is:—

Mr. Masterman in his Report has twisted my evidence to suit himself. I will attempt to explain this.

The day prior to the inquiry at Liverpool, JOHN BULL stated that the evidence taken by JOHN BULL *had been submitted to the Home Office.* On meeting Mr. Wilson, he pointed out at once that his statement was not "sworn," so having to act on my own initiative, I told my witnesses that our case was good enough and, no matter how much cross-examination took place, to state facts they were eye-witnesses of.

The "sworn" statement by Mr. Wilson was followed by another account of the same death.

One of the first questions I was asked was, "Is *that* a sworn statement?" and naturally I thought your assistant-editor had handed over the evidence and letters to the Home Office.

I was then pestered with questions regarding the two accounts of the one death and on Page 18 of the Report (3) *you will find a garbled account of what I said.* The language is nearly the same, but *altered slightly to give offence.*

Note par. 5. I said the account of the *one* death *re* Wilson's "sworn" statement was "ambiguously put," *but the alteration of my evidence is the work of somebody on the Home Office Permanent staff.*

Page 18, *par.* 5.—I got no opportunity of telling of boys taken naked across yard and flung into plunge bath. I was kept to the *one* case of buckets of water being thrown over boys *in the open yard*, and I agreed there was only one such case and then having obtained that confession I was switched off by the lawyer on to other questions. He (the lawyer) had sheet after sheet of questions, many of the questions having *red* ink marks round them. To me, it appeared that after ten or twelve questions I was asked a similar question as previously answered, only the question was framed in different language.

I really had not a fair chance, and if I had not previously been advised by your assistant-editor to avoid discourtesy to Mr. Masterman, *I would have asked them if they desired the truth.*

The lawyer was sneering as I got up to cut the string holding the birches, so I turned to him and said, "Oh, just wait until you see other witnesses respecting the birches," and my knife so severely cut my hand that Mr. Masterman sent for a doctor as I lost so much blood.

Par. 5, *page* 18.—It was Mr. Masterman himself who said that the word "frequently" should not have been used and that the use of the word "frequently" exaggerated the account. To this I agreed, and I wrote and told your assistant-editor about the matter.

I only differed on the point of Wilson's "sworn" statement and the word "frequently," as I wrote and told Mr. Wedlake.

I begged Mr. Masterman to allow me to examine the Punishment and Journal Books, but he treated my appeals with contempt.

Brooks', Mills', and Yeadon's deaths were accelerated by canings on the bare flesh, but *what* could I do in the matter when I had simply to answer prepared questions? *The punishments have not been recorded, and barely* ONE QUARTER *of punishments inflicted had been recorded.* Hence they would not allow me to examine the books, or I expect *I could easily have proved my case.*

I asked if the punishment of the boy Leach had been recorded. I was asked the date, and so I stated July 29th, 1909—the night they stood up all the time. Mr. Maxwell, Secretary to Mr. Masterman, had the Punishment Book, and he looked in the book and it was not recorded. Mr. Masterman then told Mr. Maxwell to make a note of it.

This boy Leach has a scar of the "major degree" as per Dr. Paton's report. The boy Leach sometime about 12.30 midnight turned to another boy and said the standing-up punishment was unfair, and for this breach of rules *Beuttler had the boy taken below and gagged in the usual manner and severely flogged with the big cane.*

The blanket was always used at the school until last Easter, when my wife told Beuttler that Lovelock had ripped the boy's ear open and that Beuttler *must* stop his cruelties as she (my wife) had at length prevailed on me to resign.

Page 18, *Clause* 2.—It states I had reported the two boys. *I stoutly denied this to Mr. Masterman, and again asked him to allow me to examine the Punishment Book.* I was so incensed at this treatment that I stood up and leaned across the table and looked at the book, and I saw the *whole* of the writing was BEUTTLER'S.

I could point out to you numerous other inaccuracies in the Report and it appears to have been written by two different people.

In September, 1909, the different divisions (four divisions in school) *stood up* from 8.30 p.m. to 2.15 a.m. on two occasions. In mentioning this I asked Mr. Masterman to allow me to examine the Journal, but was refused.

I am very glad you intend to expose the manner in which this Report was drawn up.

It is obvious that matters cannot rest where they are. Either the present heads of the school, or Mr. Masterman himself, MUST GO.

THE MYSTERY OF NUMBERS.

ARE JIM CROW'S NUMBERS 7 AND 1?

We have received from "Professor Septimus Unity," the following learned discourse, suggested by our recent article on the figures 9 and 1:—

> Jim Crow (3 and 4 equals 7). He writes in JOHN BULL; 4 and 4 equals 8, which is 7 and 1. He writes essays, 6 (7 minus 1). He is described as a licensed crank, 8 (or 7 plus 1) and 5 equals 13, which is 7 plus 7 minus 1; also a journalistic cat, 12 and 3 equals 15, which is 7 plus 7 plus 1.
>
> In the March 18th (8 minus 1 equals 7) number of JOHN BULL, his essay was on page 420; 7 into 420 goes 60 times; 60 plus 10 is 70; also 4 plus 2 plus 0 equals 6, equals 7 minus 1. That article was cynical (7). Some say he is a dam fool (3 and 4 are 7); others more correctly a damn fool (7 and 1); others quite correctly, say "he is a damned fool" (equals 14 equals 7 plus 7.
>
> I think the above is enough to convince even the most unbelieving that there is truth in numbers.

BIRTHDAY OF THE WEEK.

"JOHN BULL'S" GREETINGS.

March 27th.—MR. E. T. REED.

Long may your facile pencil glide;
By genial humour guided,
Our various features to deride,
On which ourselves had prided;
Long may you show our attitude
Were ill-adapted for the nude.

Long may your vivid art disclose
In *Punch* and other journals,
The strange formation of our nose,
The fierce moustache of colonels;
The strange expression of our eyes,
Our giant bulk or pygmy size.

When Death at last shall stay your hand,
And o'er the Styx convey you,
May nought in the Elysian land
Appear that shall dismay you;
Else you'll be haunted by the features
You've given your hapless fellow creatures!

MR. W. T. STEAD.

IMAGINARY INTERVIEW.

By WALTER MOORE.

"Anything fresh?" I asked Mr. W. T. Stead, strolling into his office in Kingsway the other afternoon.

"Fresh!" exclaimed the great spook hunter; "haven't you heard?"

"No; what?" I demanded, taking a seat on a huge pile of last month's *Review of Reviews*. "You seem excited. Has Julia gone in for the harem skirt?"

"Pish!" retorted Mr. Stead. "Why can't you be serious for once?"

"I'm always serious when interviewing," I returned, readjusting my countenance. "What is the trouble?"

"The Elixir of Life has been found at last."

"Is it to be put on the market?" I asked.

"That's the point that's troubling me. I am not quite sure whether it would be good for mankind in general to have the means of renewing their youth. It might cause serious complications. At present, the Elixir is in the sole possession of a lady friend of mine. She has tried it on one or two of her gentlemen friends, and tells me it has worked wonders."

"Tut-tut!" I murmured, gazing abstractedly out of the window.

"What do you mean by that ridiculous noise?" demanded Mr. Stead, hotly.

"Hasn't she tried it on any of her lady friends?" I asked.

"Of course not!" cried Mr. Stead. "You can know nothing of women to think of such a thing. As if a woman would be willing to bestow the priceless boon of eternal youth on any of her potential rivals! Absurd!" Mr. Stead laughed aloud.

"You seem to know a lot about female psychology," I observed. "Has she dosed *you* with the Elixir?"

"No; I refused her offer. It requires a lot of consideration. It is also very expensive."

"Thank heaven for that!" I ejaculated.

"What do you mean?" questioned Mr. Stead, sharply.

"Thank heaven it is expensive," I explained, hastily. "You see, I have a maiden aunt. She has money. She also has some regard for me. She is eighty-six. If by any chance she should get hold of this Elixir, well—*you* know."

Mr. Stead looked at me sternly.

"I believe you are mercenary," he said.

"No, not mercenary, but merciful," I explained. "She has lived a long and troubled life. Why hold her back now from peace, perfect peace, on the Astral Plane?"

"Hum; there's something in that," remarked Mr. Stead. (One can always mollify Mr. Stead by mentioning the Astral Plane.)

"But, putting every other consideration aside, it would not do at all, in our present social scheme," I observed. "Take the question of promotion, for example. The fact that young men wait for dead men's shoes is the only thing that keeps society together. Then there are our Judges. Several of them, who shall be nameless, are old enough to retire, and old enough to know they ought to. As things are, we can at least wait for death to mercifully free us from them. But suppose they got hold of the Elixir!"

"I quite agree," said Mr. Stead. "And the same argument applies to the Stage and the Church. In fact, the more one thinks about it in the right way, the more beneficent death appears."

"Take politicians, again," I proceeded.

"Yes, yes; the same thing applies."

"And editors——"

"Um—well—m'yes; I suppose so," agreed Mr. Stead, reluctantly, toying with a planchette.

"At the same time," I hinted, "should your lady friend have a drop or two to spare, I know of one very deserving case in which it could be used with advantage."

"Meaning?"

"Well, if you must know, myself, and my small circle of intimate friends."

"But that's what everybody would say!"

"And there you are," I muttered, gloomily.

"And there you are," he exclaimed triumphantly.

W. J. C. (late of Plymouth).—Your wife would be glad to hear from you, for the children's sake.

"THE CURE FOR UNEMPLOYMENT."

A HALIFAX SCHOOL MANAGER REPLIES.

We willingly give publicity to the following letter, which we have received from Mr. Selwyn Rawson, of The Haugh End, Sowerby Bridge. And we are sorry if we have inadvertently done the Vicar and those associated with him an injustice.

My attention has been called to your issue of this date, in which you draw attention, under the above heading, to an advertisement which recently appeared in a Halifax paper, for a school caretaker, and the duties required of him, and I am writing to point out that your comment at the head of the paragraph in question is unfair and misleading, so far as it applies to the Vicar of the Parish.

What your contributor omitted to state is, that the Vicar was only acting in his official capacity as "Correspondent" to the Managers, and that the salary of 8s. 6d. per week is the one fixed by the West Riding of Yorks County Council. Further, I should like to say the late caretaker was paid 10s. per week, and, when he resigned, the W.R.C.C. reduced the salary to the munificent one of 8s. 6d. per week, the caretaker also having, out of this princely income, to provide cleaning materials, etc., and this notwithstanding the protests of the Managers. Not only do the W.R.C.C. officials draw up the duties of the caretaker, but they also fix his salary, and it is noteworthy that the latter is almost invariably fixed on a lower scale for the National or Church schools than is paid in Council schools, notwithstanding the fact that the Managers of the former contribute a share of the expenses. Contrast this miserly cheeseparing policy, in regard to Denominational schools, with that pursued when any of their overpaid officials ask for an advance of salary, and then by all means let us have a fair and unbiassed comment. In the meantime, as a Manager of the schools in question, I must ask you to be kind enough to give this letter the same prominence that was given to your article, and to withdraw the implied imputation on the Vicar and those connected with him in the management of the schools.

THE SONG OF THE TROUSERS.

(Mr. Haldane states it is proposed to reduce the price paid to machinists at the Pimlico clothing factory employed on Service dress trousers from 3d. to 2½d. a pair, on the ground that the character of the work does not warrant the former rate.)

Stitch, stitch, stitch,
Trousers at threepence a pair;
The women are getting rich—
Room for enquiry there.
It is far too much to pay,
And somebody ought to speak,
Or women will soon be millionaires
On twenty-five shillings a week.

No wonder they're waxing fat!
Such extravagance must be stopped;
A man who'd fling this wealth away
Ought to be promptly "shopped."
It isn't a righteous thing
To pamper the females so;
Threepence a pair for trousers—my!
Some of that wage must go.

Stitch, stitch, stitch,
It seems to be only fair
To institute new rates of pay,
Twopence-farthing a pair.
You see it is easy work,
Machining a pair of bags,
So knock three-farthings off the price
We dole to the purse-proud hags.

Oh, Ministers! starved and poor
On a mere five thousand a year,
'Tis fine to check the scandalous waste
Of the nation's revenue here.
Twopence-farthing's enough,
On threepence they grew too rich,
Those idle women with nothing to do
But stitch, stitch, stitch!

RICARDO.

OUR SPECIAL PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER.

A VISIT TO SHEFFIELD.

We have appointed a Special Provincial Commissioner, who will visit in turn the principal cities and towns of Great Britain, for the purpose of collecting on the spot, and first hand, trustworthy information respecting matters of local importance, provided they be of sufficient public interest to justify being dealt with in these columns. He is now at the King's Head Hotel, Sheffield, where he will be happy to meet any JOHN BULL reader who may be desirous of giving him information.

His future movements, with the date of his arrival, and the name of his hotel, will be duly announced. Will our readers be keeping their eyes and ears open in regard to local matters, with a view to placing the facts before the Commissioner on his arrival in their district?

UNCOMMON COMMON COMPLAINTS.—VI.

By G. G. WOODWARD.

HOOLIGANGRENE, OR CAMBRIDGE RAG.

Although doubtless always existing in our midst in some form or other, it is only of late years that this disease has been so prevalent as to cause much notice to be taken of it. It is a species of cancer, and at times its recrudescence is so violent that it becomes necessary for Government itself to discuss the best way of dealing with it—laws, hygienic and otherwise, being made for its extermination.

It attacks its victims between the ages of 16 and 25—also between the eyes, which become black and swollen—and the male sex is more subject to its ravages than the female. Our system of education, or the want of it, is often blamed as the cause of the malady, but whether this be so or not remains to be proved.

The complaint is considered by some to be simply a manifestation of superabundant energy, and to remedy the same the prescription usually advocated is "conscription." Judged by the homœopathic doctrine of like curing like, it should only yield to the knife, but no such drastic remedy is likely to be used by our modern sentimentalists. The more mildly aperient medicine of Boys' Clubs, Lads' Brigades, and organisations of that sort are first being tried, and so far with fairly effective results.

A very similar disease, which many consider absolutely identical, known as "rag," is frequently epidemic at Cambridge, Aldershot, etc., and causes those in authority considerable anxiety as to the best means of suppression.

KEIR HARDIE'S LAMENT.

(*"May I ask whether it is in accordance with the law for the Judge to assume the innocence of the accused person before the evidence is heard?"*—MR. KEIR HARDIE *in the House of Commons.*)

The foul injustice of our laws
  Annoys me more and more,
For recently I learned a fact
  I never knew before,
To wit, that untried prisoners
  When up for judgment sent,
Until their guilt is fully proved
  Are reckoned innocent!

If this is English justice, I
  Shall make my home elsewhere,
I'll seek some foreign clime, with laws
  Equitable and fair;
A country where to be accused
  Is equal deemed to guilt,
Where charges haven't to be proved,
  As here, up to the hilt.

But soft!—Methinks I once expressed
  Views opposite to these,
When on my Indian pilgrimage
  Amongst the Bengalese.
Ah, well; it served my purpose when
  The crime sedition was;
But here, amongst my countrymen,
  I ask for harsher laws.

W. M.

THE CORRESPONDENCE OF A COUNTESS.

By RICHARD MORTON.

Letter from the Countess of Wellborn.

To the Editor of JOHN BULL.

SIR,—I enclose you a private letter from my dear friend, Lady Conscience Smitten, and as it so thoroughly expresses the views of the most intellectual people, such as her ladyship and myself, I authorise you to honour your columns by printing it. My friend, Lady Conscience, will be awfully delighted with the publicity I am thus securing for her secret thoughts.

Yours most faithfully,

MAUDIE WELLBORN.

Enclosure.

DEAR LADY WELLBORN,—What a silly johnny your husband is to go on making speeches that nobody wants to listen to and nobody reports.

If he would only abduct an heiress or commit bigamy—(paying, at the same time, all due regard to your own sweet susceptibilities)—what a delightful advertisement it would be for him and the cause! Why, we could give him a full page, opposite leading article, portrait included, in our own journal. That would be glory for him, as they used to sing in days gone by. Can't you get him to stir his stumps and do something desperate?

What's the good of having a husband who was once in the Cabinet if you don't make use of him? If he won't come up to the scratch, dear, do it yourself. I am sure he will be mightily pleased with the bold advert. you would be giving him. Try it, pet, and see how he takes it.

Do something for the cause. It wants bucking up.

Your true friend,

CONSCIENCE SMITTEN.

Second letter from the Countess of Wellborn.

To the Editor of JOHN BULL.

SIR,—It just occurs to me that I may as well explain that the letter written by Lady Conscience Smitten, and which I sent to you to print, was not written by her at all, but by me. Perhaps you will be surprised at this, but you need not be. I just took her name for the moment and signed it to the letter for the fun of the thing. What I wanted to impress on you is how much my husband has been neglected by the press, and I thought I would give him a lift. Would you believe it, he isn't a bit grateful! But that is just like the men, is it not?

I will shortly send you some more important letters from people whom I know.

Yours very sincerely,

MAUDIE WELLBORN.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—Further communications from Lady Wellborn will only be accepted as advertisements.

ELTHORNE HEIGHTS.

Another announcement of the Great Western Land Company appears in the present issue of JOHN BULL. Without doubt, the cause of Freehold is making rapid headway in this country. In fighting the old, and what should be obsolete, system of leasehold, the Great Western Land Company have an adversary easy to conquer. Until recently, people of limited means had no option but to accept leasehold property with its chains and fetters. To acquire freehold, one had to be in a position to put down a large sum of money, but nowadays valuable London freehold is to be bought by everyone who has a £5 note. After all, furniture, books, pianos, and a host of other useful commodities, can be acquired on terms which appeal to people who are not capitalists. Why then should not the land be disposed of in similar manner?

The scheme of enabling anyone to become a freeholder who is just a little thrifty, is highly commendable. It is the means by which the masses will eventually own the land and the homes they live in. Lately there have been some painfully clear exposures of the iniquities of the leasehold system. It is certainly worth while to call and have a chat with the Great Western Land Company at their offices in town, or on the Elthorne Heights Estate. There the fullest information can be had.

THE PARTY POLITICIAN'S PRIME

BY "RETLAW."

II.—HOW TO LEAD THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN AN EMERGENCY.

If in the unexpected absence of your party leader you are suddenly called upon for the first time to occupy his place, be careful to take full advantage of the opportunity thus presented to distinguish yourself—somehow. Remember that you will be "drest in a little brief authority," and that it consequently will be incumbent upon you to "play such fantastic tricks before high heaven as make the angels weep."

Above all, keep clearly before you the supreme purpose of party political warfare, namely, to antagonise and irritate your opponents. No personal sacrifice should be counted too great to achieve this laudable end. Nor should the comfort and convenience of your supporters be considered for one moment when so splendid an object is in view. Do not forget that they are merely party hacks, political beasts of burden, born to a life of degrading servitude, deserving and desiring none other.

It may so happen that the day on which your glorious opportunity arrives has been promised by your absent leader for a full discussion of certain clauses of an important controversial Bill. If this be so, you will have additional reason to rejoice and be exceeding glad, for there is sure to be a multitude of Opposition amendments on the paper, with regard to the proper treatment of which instruction will be given later.

When the sitting opens, be sure to occupy the actual seat of your absent leader, and endeavour to make as much space as possible between you and the other occupants of the Treasury bench, so that you may give the House an impression of lonely grandeur and splendid isolation. Assume a terrific frown, which you must wear throughout the whole proceedings, whereby your fellow members may see that you have a proper sense of your immense responsibilities. See that you have a quantity of papers (anything will do) on the table and on the bench beside you, also a bundle sticking out of your coat-tail pocket.

Thus armed, provided, and equipped, you may safely give the Speaker the signal to commence the proceedings.

It is a very well-known fact that men raised suddenly to a position of unaccustomed authority are firmer and harsher in their methods than their predecessors, who, having become used to power, had lost the sense of its novelty, and exercised their sway with less arbitrariness. You must on no account falsify the general experience of mankind in this regard. Having grasped the reins and the whip, keep a firm hand on the one, and wield the other unsparingly.

It must be understood that it is now your aim to get through as much business in one sitting as properly should be spread over two or three at the least. The eleven o'clock rule is consequently suspended; the first amendment is read; and the debate begins. You will observe that a large number of members are hoping to catch the Speaker's eye. You must nip in the bud this absurd and unreasonable desire for adequate discussion. When the debate has got well under weigh, spring up suddenly and move that the question be now put. This will vastly annoy the Opposition—which is the very result you are aiming at. Your own tame supporters will clamorously support your motion, the Speaker will accept it, and amidst fierce cries of "Gag!" and "Put the whole Bill" the division will be taken and result in a handsome majority for the Government.

You will now be in a position to go a step farther. Instead of the amendments being taken seriatim, arrange for the Speaker to skip the most important and put only those which can be quickly debated and disposed of. This will annoy the Opposition more than ever. They may become abusive and adopt disorderly obstructive methods. You may secretly rub your hands at this result, but you must on no account allow your satisfaction to appear. Continue to wear your portentous frown, and, when personalities commence to fly, don't hesitate to join in the game, even at the risk of a rebuke from the Speaker.

By this time it is probably getting on towards two, or even three o'clock in the morning. Your object being to show your leader when he returns what a lot of work you can get through in a short time, you must banish all thoughts of bed, but you may seize an opportunity to slip out to the dining-room and have a good feed. It is necessary in such strenuous circumstances as these to keep up your strength.

You will now begin to discover that endurance is not confined to your side of the House. The Opposition, instead of helping you to legislate at lightning speed—as, of course, they should do—will continue to place obstacles in the way of the smooth progress of Parliamentary business. They will redouble their obstruction and increase their noise. The Irish party will now commence to warm to the work, and in all probability will contribute to the general harmony some of the witticisms for which their nation is famous. Threats of personal violence may be hurled from bench to bench. In this event, it will provide you with an excellent opportunity to slip out and have another square meal.

Yawning attendants may now enter the Chamber, turn off the lamps, and allow the light of day to show itself. This will be greeted with general cheers, and may be taken as a sign that the sitting is about to be brought to an end. Nothing must be farther from your thoughts. You must not let the House off so easily as that. You will not have many such chances to rule members with a rod of iron. Indeed, it is most probable that you may never have such a chance again. So it is recommended that you proceed again to the dining-room, fortify your flagging energies with a substantial breakfast, and return once more to the House ready to chastise the Opposition with scorpions.

By half-past nine you should, at this rate, have made good progress with the Bill under discussion. As the House is to meet again early in the afternoon, you may well show a little consideration at last, and bring the protracted proceedings to a close. This you may do without any indication of a weakening purpose. The Opposition will not be likely to oppose your motion for adjournment.

You may now either regale yourself with a second breakfast, or return to your home, tired, but triumphant.

"DRINK, I SUPPOSE?"

"NO, SIR! OUR D—— JURY SYSTEM."

IS CANADA WORTH KEEPING?—VI.

THE FAVOURED NATION TREATIES—INTERESTING LETTERS AND CRITICISMS—OUR COMMISSIONERS AT WORK.

A significant announcement comes from Toronto, to the effect that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at the Imperial Conference, will ask for the revision or abrogation, in so far as Canada is concerned, of the Most Favoured Nation Treaties with various countries. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's contention seems to be that it is hardly compatible with the Dominion's unrestricted fiscal autonomy that Canada is bound automatically to give these countries the benefit of any tariff reductions she may grant elsewhere. We do not know what reception will be given to this proposal by the Imperial Government, but if we may judge from past experience the demand of the Canadian Government will be conceded. It is another sign of the times. Two or three years ago this claim of the Dominion was indirectly acknowledged by the British denunciation of the Belgium and German treaties, at the request of Canada. But the present demand goes further, and is inconsistent with the principles accepted by the United States in 1910 as regards the Payne law, that the British Empire can claim to be a unit in matters of trade. If Canada is permitted to denounce the Most Favoured Nation Treaties which affect her, she takes a long step towards the position of a separate commercial unit, and, so far as the Empire is concerned, her connection with it becomes even more shadowy than it is at present. The latest action of the Canadian Ministers is perfectly consistent with their whole policy, a policy which consists of soft words and eloquent periods as to the desire to remain a part of the British Empire, whilst their acts all point clearly to the determination to sever at a very early moment such connection as remains.

Press and Other Comments.

We have a mass of correspondence and newspapers sent to us bearing on the question of the connection of the Dominion with the Mother Country, and the prospects of immigrants of British stock. If may be useful to give some extracts.

Here, for example, is a quotation from a Quebec journal:—

> It is all very well to try to increase our population, but this is not the time to bring immigrants into this country. The other day, in Montreal, a thousand men answered an advertisement for work; just as many are idle in Toronto. It seems as if the Immigration Department were just a little too anxious to get mere numbers here.

A thousand men answering a single advertisement for work! There would not have been more in the poorest district of England. The correspondent who sends us this extract says that he has been in Canada over five years and he has never known so many out of work before, and he gives this reason: "Canada's trade is increasing enormously, but the immigrants are coming in so fast that there is not enough work to go round." That is the position in a nutshell. Our correspondent goes on to say:—

> The men wanted here must be strong, big-built men who can, and will, work with pick and shovel, or on a farm. These men can get seven months' work a year and what they can save will tide them over the winter. Some do a little better, but I am speaking of the great majority. A few first-class men in the building and other trades can also get five or six months' work, but I would warn them Canadians and old-timers get the preference and the biggest money. To the undersized men, or youths not fully grown, I say, Stay at home. To see the number of such going about here on the bum in the winter is a tragedy. They spend £7 or £8 on passage and railway fare to get here, and the agent sends them on a farm to do work they have no idea about. They stay for two days to a month after having their backs nearly broken (to say nothing of their spirits), and then come to the nearest large town (Toronto for preference). They manage to rustle a job for a few dollars a week for the rest of the season, and when work stops they are soon on the bum. They are then pointed out as bronchos, a term teeming with significance and which more often than not means something to be despised. Even the best Englishmen are looked down upon until they well prove themselves and adopt Canadian ways. I would therefore advise anyone who has a job at home to stay there, for although the right men get higher wages here, the expense of living (not existing) is far higher, and by the time winter is over he will have very little left. To any strong, big-built young man out of a job, and not afraid of work, I say, "Come, go on a farm and stay there, step by step. This is the surest way to get on here."

That man has the hang of it.

With reference to the children sent out to Canada, a correspondent from Prince Albert writes as follows:—

> With regard to the New Slave Trade in poor children, it is a veritable scandal. The Canadian is steeped in making dollars and does not care about anything else. No matter how true a scandal may be, the greater the need to hush it up. The watchword is, Do not give the country a "black eye." Everybody else may go to hell. Mr. J. Obed Smith is the paid agent of the Government to get immigrants, and as that is his business he is not going to say anything that will spoil his work. There are supposed to be Government Inspectors to see after the children who are exploited in this country, but anyone who knows the average Canadian official will not give much credence to their reports.

We take the following from a Toronto paper dated February 3rd:—

> At a meeting of the district Trades and Labour Council last evening, Delegate Woorrell stated that there were no less than 20,000 able-bodied men out of work in the city of Toronto. This startling assertion was doubted by some of those present, but a committee was formed who will investigate into the truth of it. Should the statement be substantiated, the information will be wired to England and other countries in the hope of heading off further immigration.

THE C.P.R. AND ITS LAND.

Referring to a letter on this subject from a correspondent, published on March 4th, the manager of the Lands Department of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, writes:—

> You will observe from the enclosed photograph of plans the company do not erect a "shack," but a nice cottage, with a good stable. The farms consist of 80 acres, or more, of irrigated land, and 160 and 320 acres of non-irrigated lands. The price of the land for the 80-acre farms will amount to an average of not more than $25 per acre; the non-irrigated will be considerably less. The company, besides the above, also put down a well (with pump), fence the land and break, prepare and seed fifty acres or thereabouts on each farm. The cost of these improvements is advanced by the company, and the purchaser has ten years in which to pay for same.
>
> Experience—which, after all, is the only criterion to go by—has proved that an Englishman can not only exist on an 80-acre irrigated mixed farm, but can make money. The history of Canada has shown that where irrigation is unnecessary, thousands of men have not only been able to rear a family and live comfortably, but also to save money on 160 and 320 acre farms.
>
> The statement with regard to interest is in keeping with the rest of the article, as in the first information supplied to every enquirer the statement is distinctly made that 6 per cent. interest is charged on deferred payments. I may, however, mention that the ordinary rate of interest on first-class mortgages in Western Canada is 8 per cent.

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.....

SPOOKS AT HILLDROP CRESCENT.

SEQUEL TO THE McNAB GHOST STORY.

Sandy McNab, the owner and occupier of the house in which the Crippens lived, is a well-known comedian, and from the story of his mysterious visitors, published in these columns some weeks ago, he might certainly obtain ample material for a new sketch. Gaping crowds surround his house, and he has been the recipient of scores of letters giving him advice and sympathy. We publish the following as a sample :—

> Having (as a student of such phenomena) read with great interest the account of your gruesome experience, I am writing you upon the subject. I feel very interested, because a few days before I was in Hilldrop Crescent, and when I was passing your house I wondered whether you were bothered with any supernatural appearances. As a medical man who has always had a great interest in the supernatural, I will give you an explanation of your experience.
>
> In the first place, it is well known—and an indisputable fact also—that when people have died suddenly their spirits are liable to haunt their last resting-places.
>
> Both you and the policeman had the image of a cat before your eyes, but there was no flesh and blood cat in that room. In the case of the man you saw, you smelt fumes of alcohol coming from him, you saw him as far as the door, but if you had plunged a knife into that form you would have heard a shriek, but you would have wounded nobody. This appearance was also a spirit. You feel sure that you gave him a shilling. If you throw your mind back *you will remember that you were not a shilling short the next morning.* You have my sympathy.

As regards the italicised portion of the letter, we imagine that the writer must have some knowledge of Sandy!

A Seance.

Another letter was from a member of the London Spiritualist Alliance. It made an offer to hold a *séance*, and accordingly one was arranged. Here is a report from the *Evening News* :—

> Watching for Ghosts.
> Clairvoyants' Night Vigil At Mrs. Crippen's House in Hilldrop Crescent.
>
> Last night's *séance* at the house in Hilldrop Crescent, where Mrs. Crippen was murdered, held by way of an inquiry into the "strange sights" that are reported to have been seen, has not yielded any very definite result.
>
> "Nothing happened" one who attended informed a representative of *The Evening News*, "nothing, that is, that would really impress the public.
>
> "There were eight of us sitting round the table, seven being clairvoyants. I provided myself with a pocket electric lamp in case of suspicious manifestations.
>
> "Some of the sitters were also professional mediums. They complained of a choking feeling in the throat, and two or three, I think, said they saw the rumoured black cat.
>
> "One of them was seized with convulsions; he fell writhing on the floor, and I helped to hold him down. That was all.
>
> "We hope for better luck at the next *séance* in a fortnight's time."

Our Commissioner's Report.

Now let us see what our Special Commissioner says. He was present at that *séance*, though none of the Spiritualists were aware of the fact, for he was introduced as a professional friend of McNab's. The following is his report :—

"Of all the frauds on earth, I believe, after witnessing the scene at Hilldrop Crescent, 'Spiritualism'—so-called—to be the greatest. The 'Spiritualists' present numbered seven—four males, and three females. The only other persons in the room were the little Scotchman and myself. Punctually at 8.30 the *séance* commenced, and it continued until 10 p.m.

"The lights having been turned low, we sat down to a round table and linked up hands. Our forearms rested on the table-top. My companion on the left was a lady of some fifty summers, weighing about fifteen stone. My link-up on the right was a youth of about twenty. Sandy sat directly opposite. At the most favourable of times his face is anything but artistic, and as I looked upon it in the dim gaslight I fully made up my mind that it would frighten away any spirit that might have a wish to visit this world and unburden its mind. The lady who sat next to Sandy said a prayer; then there was silence for ten minutes, after which the whisper went round, 'Do you feel the magnetism?' I was the only one who did not, so the order was given to link up hands UNDER the table, which we accordingly did. Even then I did not feel the 'fluence.' After a twenty minutes' spell of silence, things commenced to move. One of the male Spiritualists went off into a sort of epileptic fit. He raved—he tore—he appeared to be choking. I was about to go to his assistance when I was told to leave him alone—that there were two Indian warriors behind his chair who would see that he did not harm himself. I need hardly say that I saw no shadows. While this gentleman was having his fit it was said that the vision of a lady made an appearance immediately behind me, and that she had her hand upon my shoulder. Her name was written above her head, and it was 'Ann.' Of course, I could not see this spirit. Neither could McNab, but all the others could. The gentleman in the fit 'came to.' He said he had been going through a 'pleasant' dream—he had experienced all the sensation of choking; that was all he could tell us. Sandy at this point said he could smell something, and the lady on his immediate right said she could also. Though, again, I experienced nothing I am not prepared to dispute this—especially as several others spoke of an 'earthy' odour.

"Suddenly another spirit appeared, again behind me. I turned round, but it had vanished quicker than I could move. Then the youth on my right commenced to twitch. I held his hand tight; the tighter I held on the more he struggled, so I let go. After this I witnessed what can only be termed the ravings of a madman. He tugged at his throat, pulled off his tie, kicked over his chair, and rolled on the floor. He shouted, and—he brayed like an ass. Indeed, he *was* one. After a fifteen minutes' exhibition he came to, and then he gave us HIS experience. He had been hanging, and all his struggling was to get the rope from his neck. He also told us that there were a couple of babies under the boards in Sandy McNab's front room. The venetian blinds now commenced to creak, and we all looked out for the black cat. I was determined that, at any rate, I would have one spirit in FRONT, so I whispered, 'There goes the black cat, Sandy. It's crossed over your shoulder.' The lady on Sandy's right felt a pain in her head. The cat had passed through it! Of course, I had seen no cat, but the lady had felt it! And so the miserable affair went on until 10 p.m., when the *séance* was adjourned for a fortnight, 'in the hope of getting better results'!"

Somehow, we don't think that *séance* will take place.

A HOUSE OF FURNITURE TO BE GIVEN AWAY!

"CAN ENGLISH GIRLS LOVE?"

"GIRLS IN TEA SHOPS."

See this Week's "MRS. BULL"

The New 5-Fold "Warnol" Friend of Your Hair & Scalp.

"DAILY DRESSING" for SCALP & HAIR

Your Chemist or Hairdresser will be Pleased to Make the "Introduction."

A FRIENDSHIP of the most valuable kind awaits every reader of this paper.

The best friend of your hair awaits only an introduction to begin what will prove a lasting friendship.

The best friend of every reader's hair and scalp will be found in the new "Daily Dressing" called "Warnol" (after the name of the discoverer, Mr. Warner Oliver, the well-known West-End Hair Specialist). For the small cost of 1s. a bottle of "Warnol" will "Daily Dress" your hair into health and beauty for 50 days. With the 2s. 6d. bottle the "Daily Dressing" will continue for 150 days.

There is enough friendship for your hair and scalp in either the 1s. or 2s. 6d. size bottle of "Warnol" to make every reader glad of the introduction that one's Chemist, Stores or Hairdresser will be delighted to effect without delay to-day.

It is just the aid of "Warnol's" friendly daily cherishing of your scalp and hair that will prevent the more or less slow but sure decay and death of your hair.

5 in 1 "Daily Dressing." for Your Hair and Scalp.

So ethereally fine is "Warnol" that it will fade into the atmosphere if left exposed to the jealous air. It is this very delicacy that makes the hair and scalp absorb "Warnol" so quickly. The absorption is so complete as to leave not even a suggestion of dampness, much less any actual stickiness or greasiness. The only evidence of "Warnol's" friendship for the hair and scalp is a resulting smoothness and softness and a sweet tractability to the ministrations of the brush and comb.

Yet is "Warnol" no mere friend of the appearance of the hair. It is every user's 5-in-1 ally against Dandruff, Dryness, Moistness, Weakness and Irritability of the Scalp.

A BOTTLE-IN-WAITING FOR YOU.

All these five factors of Scalp and Hair Health and Beauty lie in waiting in every 1s. and 2s. 6d. bottle of "Warnol."

Will you keep waiting so useful a friend to your hair as "Warnol"? Test "Warnol's" friendship for your hair and scalp for 50 days for 1s. or 150 days for 2s. 6d.

Your Chemist, your Stores, or your Hairdresser will be pleased to "introduce" either a 1s. or 2s. 6d. bottle of "Warnol" on trial.

To-day is here—and there's no time like the present for making the acquaintance of so good a friend to your hair as "Warnol."

If you have not yet ordered your SPRING OVERCOAT, why not have a

"Wetresista"

Why not have an overcoat this Spring that will serve as an overcoat and mackintosh combined—a coat that is not only light, smart and dressy, but thoroughly waterproof as well.

Hundreds of "John Bull" readers who have purchased our famous "Wetresista" Raincoat write us letters full of praise and satisfaction. Some are especially pleased with the perfect fit, others say how well it protects them from the rain, whilst all agree that it is the best value in a Raincoat they have ever obtained.

The Price is Only

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Equal to Any 3-Guinea Overcoat.

Or cut with new Raglan shoulders and extra full skirt — **37/6.**

The heaviest downpour cannot penetrate it or spoil its shape. *That's* the feature of the "Wetresista." No rubber—perfect in fit, style and finish.

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New 1911 Designs—Suitable for all Climes

sent to any address on receipt of post card. Sample Coat forwarded carriage paid to any part of England on receipt of P.O. or cheque for 35/- and **money returned** if not approved. Simply send length of coat and colour desired also chest measurement over vest.

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Few doors West of Mudie's Library,

Telegrams: "WETRESISTA, London." 'Phone: Gerrard, 4603.

"Vertex" Collars

All Linen

3/- for 12

These Nine Styles

are all available at present in all sizes. The collar illustrated on the figure is a square-cornered double shape, in 2 heights and quarter sizes—14 to 19½.

N.B.—The double collar, No. 4 on the right, is in a 3-inch height only.

Six for Eighteenpence.

SELFRIDGE & Co., Ltd.,

OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.

SMALL ECONOMIES.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective; cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

Economy is the essence of good husbandry, which means that a good husband must not be expected to be economical, but that his wife must minister to his wants, require as few cheques as possible, cherish the widow's cruse, always keep full flagons on the sideboard. The odd anti-suffragette thing is that you always find women talking about small economies, whereas men never talk them, much less practise them. The ordinary man goes off on the burst, and spends a whole week's housekeeping allowance on an orgy of beer and skittles. Meanwhile his wife dispenses with luncheon, frequents aerated bread shops, denies herself hats and coats and harem skirts, knowing all the while that anything she may save will be commandeered by the favourite public-house of her lord and master. And yet there are people who go about denying votes to women!

Hints About Husbands.

Look at the library of any housewife. "Little Economies in the Kitchen," "How to Live on 1s. 9d. a Day," "How to Persuade Brainless Dogs to Eat Garbage"—that is the kind of literature she revels in. How kind and how foolish! That is one reason why I am a suffragist. When the millennium comes, the husband will be the drudge and will humbly bring pieces of silver. Meanwhile, alas! we have to face facts as they are, and my advice to other people's wives is to deny themselves nothing, to curb the evil appetites of the people they have been unfortunate enough to marry.

The Stink of Smoke.

A very laudable economy may be effected by the prohibition of tobacco. It infects curtains, costs money, and is supposed to injure the eyes. Women are content with occasional cigarettes for ostentatious purposes, and derive no real enjoyment from the dirty weed. Men either spend about £1 a week on opium-tainted cigarettes, or suck disgusting pipes, or ruin themselves in the fruitless pursuit of the products of Havana. Smoking is merely a trick of the nerves, a form of fidgetting, an unnatural offence. No strong-minded lady's husband is ever permitted to give way to it. We ought to revive the early Victorian idea that smoking ought never to be allowed in the presence of a lady without the previous solicitation of gracious permission. A wife is no less a lady than a minx or a tatterdemalion. Therefore her permission ought to be asked. In her own interests it ought to be strenuously refused. She should remember that there is no smoke without fire.

Costly Conviviality.

For some occult reason, the housewife does not drink—at least, nothing stronger than tea or water. Look at rich widows and some spinsters—what shocking liquor they provide. You might entrust them with the key of your cellar and no depredations would occur from year's end to year's end, except that the bailiff's man might be rewarded with a pint of your oldest madeira while your honoured guests were put off with sparkling cider or Australian burgundy. The female is the only sex which has mastered simple arithmetic and is capable of calculating that a bottle of champagne every day is almost the equivalent of £200 a year. I have been a teetotaler for a long time, but I never realise the full consequences of an open hand or an empty purse. When I meet my friends I am quite content to take them to a tavern and ply them with expensive fusel oil while I sip my small Perrier or my little lemon. But if I kept accounts, I should know that this amounts to quite an indecent sum by the end of the week or the month or the year. If I were a woman, which, alas! I am not, I should have everything in from the grocer at the last moment, and should be horrified if I found that my hospitality had totalled up to pounds, shillings and pence when my bill came in.

Sexual Contrasts.

Man's is not the economical sex, I admit. I may get more personal, selfish enjoyment out of a certain number of coins, but Mrs. Crow would certainly command more serious satisfactions. Set up the average man and the average woman in separate establishments and give them each £500 a year, and you will find that the man will buy amusement while the woman secures comfort. As a retrospect, comfort is far to be preferred above rubies, whereas amusement is evanescent. Even a poke-bonnet remains an asset, whereas a music-hall orgy is at the best a putrid memory. A man thinks himself generous when he gives drinks, though he always takes very good care to remain on the premises until all his guests have requited his hospitality. Then he staggers out into the cold, fumbles with his latchkey, beats his wife and pawns the bedclothes for his next outburst of hospitality. Meanwhile she secures only a tithe of the earnings, restricts her wants to the utmost, and is always ready to lend a helping hand to lame dogs, to provide nice little meals, to turn herself out spick and span.

The Pinch of Penury.

Little economies are really great ones. It is the person who patronises omnibuses and wears woollen underclothes who contrives to inflate bank balances. At the same time, I contend that small economies by themselves lead nowhere. Whenever I pinch myself, and try to keep accounts, and promise and vow that I will never exceed my income, the only result is that I am exceedingly uncomfortable all through the quarter and not a bit better off when my next dividends come in. The thing is to have a sense of finance, but I have not been gifted with that any more than certain people have been gifted with a sense of colour, taste or smell.

The Miser's Manual.

I think, however, I can lay down a few golden rules for little economies. 1. Never tip anybody. The result of tipping is that you pay wages which ought to be paid by the employers of the people you tip. Take waiters in restaurants, or cabmen, or hotel servants, or schoolboys, or almost any other parasite. You pull out your 2d., or your half-crown, or your sovereign as the case may be, and the only result is that you relieve someone much wealthier than yourself of his obligations. You excite no gratitude, because your largesse is regarded as a due. In fact, you denude yourself for the benefit of people who are evading their obligations. 2. Take charity. In almost any printed account-book or table of expenditure you will find an item set apart for charity. But the true economist quickly learns the lesson that charity begins and ends at home. If you give indiscriminately, you give to sturdy beggars, wastrels, and other members of the undeserving poor. If you give to societies which have been created for the distribution of alms, most of your money will be devoted to the maintenance of fat secretaries, predatory printers, and extravagant office expenses.

The Law of Largesse.

Suppose you have children and poor relations. They are utterly helpless and hopeless, otherwise they would not be your children or poor. They whine and worry until you are sick of the sight of their faces and their handwriting. So in a weak moment you undertake to make them an allowance. Little do you know what sorrows you are laying up for yourself. You do not get a shred of thanks, except, perhaps, at the instant of your weakness. But woe betide you if you are ever a minute in arrear. You will be besieged with letters and telegrams remonstrating over your callous, cruel neglect; your abominable, dishonourable evasion of your obligations. If you are a good economist, never promise anyone an allowance. Pretend to be a hard, cynical, passive resister, and dole out your guerdons at unexpected moments. Then the expectant heirs will soothe your brow; fawn, flatter, overwhelm you with empty gratitude.

The Danger of Denial.

It is a very important economy always to have everything of the best—in other words, never to deny yourself anything. Good wine is better than bad, because it saves you the guineas which would be extracted by your medical adviser. A good neighbourhood is better than a bad one, because it saves you cab fares and keeps you within touch of useful friends. Good clothes are advisable because they increase your credit and attract the respect of people who might regard you as a poor devil and withhold their support. Carouses are to be recommended, because they clear the brain and enable you to do great things. Expensive flirtations must be cultivated, because they conduce to cheerfulness. To sum up: You may deny your master, but you must never deny yourself.

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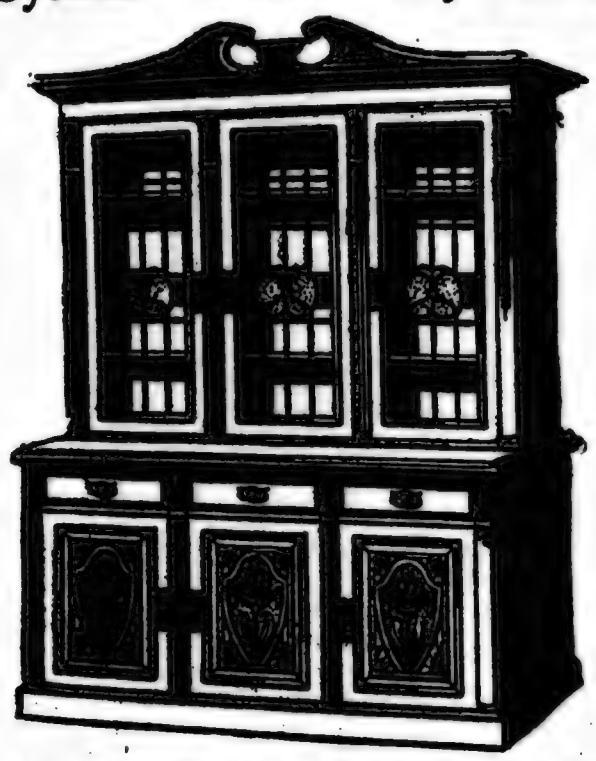
ENORMOUS REDUCTIONS

In order to make room for the Builders to proceed with their work in the extension of our premises, it is necessary that the majority of our stock must be cleared at a tremendous sacrifice.

If desired all these goods may be had on our Gradual Payment System without any interest or extra charge whatsoever.



5 feet Bookcase with leaded light doors in top part. A very handsome piece.
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Six doors from the Holborn Restaurant and Holborn Station (G.N., P. & B. Rly.), 1 minute from British Museum Station (Central London Rly.), and 3 minutes from Oxford Street.

LAW FOR THE MILLION.

LANDLORD AND TENANT.

Distress for Rent.

Distress is the right the landlord has of entering the premises and seizing and selling the goods thereon if the rent is in arrear.

There are certain requisites to the exercise of the power of distress for rent:—

(*a*) The rent must be in arrear; and rent does not become due until the very end of the day on which it is payable; but if rent is payable in advance it is in arrear directly the period for which it is payable commences.

(*b*) The rent must be certain, that is, the premises must be let at a fixed rent; for if the tenant holds premises at a rent to be agreed on, or simply at their fair value, the landlord has no right of distress, but can only sue for use and occupation. The general rule is that all moveable chattels on the premises at the time of the distress are liable to be seized, whether they are the property of the tenant or of a stranger, but this is subject to many exceptions, the principal of which are:—

1. Things in actual use.
2. Fixtures affixed to the freehold.
3. Goods of a stranger delivered to the tenant to be wrought on in the way of his ordinary trade.
4. Perishable articles.
5. Wild animals.
6. Goods in the custody of the law.
7. Instruments of a man's trade or profession, though not in actual use, if any other sufficient distress can be found.
8. Beasts of the plough, instruments of husbandry, and beasts which improve the land, if any other sufficient distress can be found.
9. Live stock belonging to another person and taken in by the tenant to be fed at a price agreed on, if any other sufficient distress can be found; and even if there is no other sufficient distress, they are only distrainable to the extent of the amount of the price agreed on for the fee remaining then unpaid, and the owner may redeem on paying this.
10. Agricultural or other machinery the *bona fide* property of a person other than the tenant, and only hired by the tenant.
11. Live stock of all kinds the *bona fide* property of a person other than the tenant and on the tenant's premises solely for breeding purposes.
12. Lodger's goods.
13. Wearing apparel and bedding of the tenant and his family, and the tools and implements of his trade to the value of £5.

It is provided by the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1908, that if the superior landlord distrains or threatens to distrain upon the goods of any lodger, under-tenant, or other person, they may serve such landlord or the bailiff distraining, with a declaration stating that the tenant has no right to the goods of such lodger, under-tenant or other person, and also setting forth what rent (if any) is due to the tenant and the times at which future instalments of rent will become due and the amount thereof, and containing an undertaking to pay to the superior landlord any rent so due or to become due to his immediate landlord, until the arrears of rent in respect of which the distress was levied have been paid off, and to such declaration shall be annexed a correct inventory of the goods referred to in the declaration. If after the declaration is served and the lodger or under-tenant shall have paid or tendered the rent then owing to his immediate landlord, his goods are distrained, an application may be made to a magistrate for their recovery, and damages may be obtained from the superior landlord. The superior landlord may, however, legally distrain the goods of a lodger or under-tenant for any rent owing to the immediate landlord, and may also serve a notice stating the amount due for rent, and require all future payments of rent due from the lodger or under-tenant to be paid direct to him until such arrears have been paid. If this is done by the lodger or under-tenant it will be a good discharge as against the immediate landlord.

There is an important distinction between an execution and a distress. A judgment creditor may take the goods of his judgment debtor in execution, but he may not take the goods of a stranger, but in distress they are so liable unless they have been delivered to be wrought upon in the course of the tenant's ordinary employment; thus, if a book is lent and a distress or an execution is put in the lendee's house, the book is liable to be taken in the distress though not in the execution; but if the book is delivered to a bookbinder to be bound, it is not liable to be taken either in distress or in execution, for here the bookbinder has it to work upon in the way of his ordinary calling.

A distress must be levied between the hours of sunrise and sunset, but the landlord or his bailiff must not enter the house by force or breaking in, and it is unlawful to enter by an unbolted window, though if the window is partially open it is justifiable to open it further to effect an entrance, but the landlord or his bailiff may open an outer door in the way in which other persons are accustomed to use it, and when entry has once been properly obtained, inner doors may be forced open. If a distrainer having properly entered is subsequently turned out of possession, he has a right to break in to re-enter.

When a distress has been levied an inventory of the goods seized must be made and a copy left on the premises with a written notice that if the goods are not redeemed within five days they will be sold. The tenant may, in writing, require the sale to be postponed for not more than fifteen days, but he must give security for any additional costs that may be occasioned by such extension. If the goods are sold, the owner is entitled to any balance they realise beyond the rent and expenses.

LEGAL ANSWERS.

Employment by Day.—J. D. (Sunningdale).—If the farmer dismissed you before the end of the day, you will win the case; if, however, you left voluntarily before that time, he will be successful.

Removal of Trustee.—E. F. W. (Hastings).—You cannot remove the trustee unless he has been guilty of some misconduct in regard to the estate; try to get him to resign.

Annuity.—L. W. (London).—It depends on the terms of your mother's will; if she left no will, your father can leave the money to whom he likes, but if there was a marriage settlement, he is bound by the terms of it.

Notice to Quit.—A. E. B. (Christchurch).—The notice is valid.

Legality of Marriage.—H. P. W. (Crofton Park).—The addition of a Christian (pet) name makes no difference; the marriage is legal.

Fees to Jurymen.—W. A. (Hackney).—Jurymen receive a small fee.

Workmen's Compensation.—Bilby (Darlington).—The claim should be made within six months of the accident, but if you had a reasonable excuse, failure to comply with this provision is not necessarily fatal. You are entitled under the Act to half wages during total incapacity, except for the first week.

Separated (Brighton).—Consult the "Annual Practice" and Stone's "Justices' Manual."

Sale of Shares.—A. E. (Pentonville).—If the shares are in the name of your late husband's friend, he can sell them without your signature; if they are in the name of your late husband, his executor should have had them transferred to you. Better instruct a solicitor to recover them for you.

Printing Betting Cards and Starting Price Lists.—Cour. (Old Ford).—If you only do the printing and not the publishing, you are not liable to any penalties.

Customer Supplying Material for Dress.—H. T. (London, S.W.).—You can retain the dresses until your work is paid for, but it is illegal to sell—though, owing to the time that has elapsed, we don't think you run much risk if you do.

Marital Dispute.—J. W. D. (Derby).—Without knowing all the facts that caused the separation, it is difficult to advise you. Better write to your wife, at the address where you send the allowance, requesting her to return home.

Keeping Excisable Liquor in House.—F. R. (Scotland).—We shall be interested to know the result of the case.

Auctioneer's Commission.—G. T. D. (Aberdare).—On a sale realising up to £500, 5 per cent. on the first £100, and 2½ per cent. on the remainder. The vendor pays the increment duty. The vendor's solicitor is entitled to £5 on each property, unless each property is purchased by the same person and the properties are held under the same title. In this case, he is only entitled to one £5. The stamp duty is 10s. per cent. up to £500.

Manufacture and Sale of Substance Containing Poison.—J. W. (Cheadle Heath); and Chilblains.—Medical practitioners and registered pharmaceutical chemists only are permitted to manufacture and sell poisons.

Death Duty.—M. S. (Brixton).—Death duty is payable on all property (whether situate in or out of the United Kingdom) at the rate of 1 per cent., if value of estate does not exceed £500; 2 per cent. if it does not exceed £1,000; 3 per cent. if it does not exceed £5,000.

Marriage Settlement.—E. A. (Tooting).—Cannot advise you without seeing a copy of the settlement.

Contract to Marry.—Dilwarat.—You are still under an obligation to marry, and liable to damages if you fail to fulfil the promise. The engagement can only be broken by mutual consent. Better inform the lady when you are ready to marry her, and if she declines to marry you, you are free.

Assignment of Insurance Policy.—M. H. (Belfast).—Your brother must execute the assignment. The Insurance Company may supply you with the necessary form; if not, you must get a solicitor to prepare one, which will cost about two guineas.

Money-Lending Contract.—S. M. (Waltham).—The money-lender can insist upon you paying by instalments, in accordance with your contract, and need not make any reduction if you pay sooner.

Repairs of Drains.—C. P. (Upper Clapton).—We fear you have no remedy.

C. A. W. (Plymouth).—Crippen's case was heard by the Court of Criminal Appeal, which is ordinarily the highest court for criminal cases—though recently, for the first time, a case was taken to the House of Lords.

Accident at a Fire.—E. A. E. (Ruabon).—It is a sad case, but, as your brother was acting voluntarily, he has no legal claim.

Summons for Debt.—W. B. (Clapton).—In the circumstances, an offer of £1 per month might be accepted.

Will.—Green-Un (Bethnal Green).—A married woman can make a will leaving her separate property to whom she likes.

Guarantee for Bicycle.—You are liable, but you can recover from the man the amount you have to pay.

Judgment Creditor.—J. W. G. (Poole).—A judgment creditor may put in execution on the goods of the debtor, but not on other people's goods.

5,000 Trial Tins

OF THE NEW

CHIN CHIN TEA

for Readers of "John Bull."

Reasons why you should try "Chin Chin" Tea.

1. The Institute of Hygiene, which includes on its Council some of the greatest living Physicians and Surgeons, after careful analysis has gratuitously given the report, an extract of which we print below.
2. It is a triumph of tea cultivation and blending.
3. The China Teas used in "Chin Chin" are imported direct from China, and are of a particular plant.
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7. For value 2/- per lb., it is exceptional, as for quality and purity it cannot be surpassed by more costly teas.

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"This is the only tea that we have analysed for some time which shows "perfect proportion as regards caffeine and tannin, and is equal in fact "to the purest and best growths of China Teas. The result, in this new "blend, is therefore, a tea which attains the highest standard, and should "commend itself to those who study their nerves or their digestion."

Fill up and send this coupon (with two penny stamps to cover postage, packing, etc.) and we will send you a trial tin of the New "Chin Chin" Tea.—HUDSONBROTHERS, Ltd.

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Master, County Clare Hounds, Ennis.

SIR,—My attention is drawn to what the newspapers call "an exciting hunting incident, the second of its kind in Ennis within a few years." The incident seems to have been that a tame deer was let loose at Torcen Hill, hunted through the grounds of the Convent of Mercy ("where in the mad race after the poor creature through the pretty grounds" statues were overturned and damaged) and thence through the streets till "the gallant animal was captured by Captain Bardy-Browne, the dogs being whipped off." I am told by those who saw this barbarous affair that at the end of the hunt the deer was shockingly bitten and streaming with blood, and that when it sank exhausted at the church gates its tail was nearly torn out before it could be rescued, for another day, by the gallant ex-militiaman who glorifies the story. Bull-fighting and cock-fighting seem to me quite noble sports, sir, in comparison with a sickening exhibition such as this. It scandalises and shames the name of sport, as it degrades the name of gentleman.

JOHN BULL.

To Dr. W. H. Slimon (Chairman), Rev. Canon Norman, and Messrs. W. B. Nichols, E. B. K. Norman, J. R. Butler, Thomas Lilley, and H. N. Dunnett, Magistrates, Mistley.

GENTLEMEN,—A few days ago Mr. Thomas Douglas Nunn, a tradesman of Wix, was prosecuted in your court for posting a letter bearing two halfpenny stamps, one of which "had undoubtedly been used before." According to the official solicitor from Somerset House, "the Commissioners of Inland Revenue did not look upon the case as a serious one." On the other hand, the defendant's explanation was cogent, simple, and satisfactory. He was in a hurry to post a letter ordering some machinery. His children collected stamps. In the dark, he opened the drawer where he kept stamps, and took two. He did not know they had been cancelled until nine days after, when he found that his letter, most important to him, had not been delivered.

So much for the explanation, good sirs. Now for this gentleman's character and reputation. "William Paskall, Postmaster, Wix, said he had known the defendant over forty years, and he had never known him do anything mean or dishonest." Then followed your decision—£2 and costs, or a month. "I'll take the month's imprisonment for a halfpenny, to show what the Government will do to me," exclaimed Mr. Nunn. "If you don't pay," retorted your Chairman, "you'll get your heart's desire and go to prison for a month." "I am very glad, sir," replied the defendant amid laughter. Mr. Nunn is, in my opinion, unwise to go to gaol. On his explanation, nobody except yourselves will believe he is wilfully guilty of this offence. What they will believe of you, gentlemen, goodness only knows, especially when they learn that the Commissioners had previously offered to accept a fine of 10s. in lieu of proceedings in court, and that the defendant indignantly declined to compromise his innocence in that way. I have not a shadow of a doubt that you have done him an unwarrantable wrong.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. George Gemmell, Chairman of King's Lynn Liberal Association.

DEAR SIR,—Your views do not appear to be so democratic as I should have expected from a man in your position. During the trial of the King's Lynn election petition, you told the Court that you thought it quite right and proper for a candidate to give you wild ducks, and to distribute pheasants and partridges among members of the Corporation. But, you said, "when you come to rabbits, that is corruption. There is a vast difference in the classes of people who get these things." In other words, a gift to a member of the lower middle-class is only an act of courtesy, whereas a less valuable offering to a workingman is rank bribery. This is a new variant of "what in the captain's but a choleric word. . . ." I wonder what the workingman will say to you when you next go canvassing for Tommy Bowles!

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. Murdo Mackenzie, School Board, Aberdeen.

MY DEAR MAC,—If I were quite sure of my ground, I would address you in that rich and rolling *linguæ scotica*, which in Aberdeen is even more entitled to reverence than its granite. But that cannot be; and assuming that you almost understand plain English, I write these few lines to say that I have noted your desire to postpone the school fêtes on Coronation Day, so that they will not clash with Aberdeen's Fast Day. "We cannot change the day of humiliation and prayer," you thundered at the meeting, with the vigour of a John Knox.

As your reverend brother Lang pointed out to you, the Fast Day is merely a local thing, the Coronation is an Imperial Day. This being so, why not get along with the rejoicing? You could have all the humiliation for which you crave the day after, or, if you please, make a whole week of it. If that does not suffice for atonement, sit in sackcloth and ashes and scourge yourself heavily for a month, and summon the populace to see you do it. I will issue the tickets at sixpence per view, and you can have the collection for church expenses.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. W. T. Stevens, Vicarage Road, Kingston.

SIR,—The evidence in the charge of cruelty to your daughter, made against you at the Kingston Police Court, proves you to be a brutal father. You sent this child of 14 barefooted into the backyard to clean seven pairs of boots in frosty weather; you knocked her down with your fist and kicked her about the kitchen floor; and when she was tired and wanted to go to bed, you made her stand up in a corner of the room to prevent her from going to sleep. You were punished by a sentence of three months' hard labour and a fine of five guineas towards the costs of the prosecution. If defenceless children are to be protected from cruelty in their own "homes," a severe example must be made of such fathers as you.

JOHN BULL.

To Miss Ethel Mary Taylor, Board of Guardians, Epping.

MY DEAR ETHEL,—It has come to my ears that because somebody challenged your statement that a certain old man who paid 8s. a week for board and lodgings could live on 6s. a week, you have been living on 6s. a week yourself; for one week only, of course, for I am sure *two* weeks would have been quite too trying. According to your budget, you actually managed to live for 5s. 11d., and this included bacon for breakfast, steak and kidney pie and custard for dinner, and toast and butter and jam for afternoon tea. The menu is almost as nice as it is cheap, I must admit that; but oh, my dear, dear Ethel, it isn't *living* on 5s. 11d., you know, it is only *eating* on 5s. 11d.—a very different matter. Why, bless your dear, innocent heart, you have forgotten to include rent, and clothes, and boots, and fire, and light, and washing!—Even if you had paid 4d. a night in an hotel for ladies only—but I won't say more, particularly as this is *such* a shocking pen.

JOHN BULL.

To the Stipendiary Magistrate, Grimsby.

SIR,—I see you had before you the other day Edward Beeson, a motorist who knocked down an old person of 86, inflicting injuries that caused death within two hours. The motorist alleged that his nerve failed him, which was an added reason why he ought not to have a motor, and you said, "This unfortunate old man had a right to live out his life and not have it cut short by your action," and then you fined Beeson £20. Human life is held very cheap by you. What is a £20 fine to one who can afford a motor car, and how can you regard it a punishment for slaughtering the aged and feeble? A period of prison and hard labour with deprivation of licence was the very least you should have inflicted.

JOHN BULL.

Masterman, Home Office.

Announcement your appointment Committee to enquire into management of reformatory and industrial schools good news for brutes in charge of children.

BULL.

P.C. Greaves, London.

Doubtless by time you read this you will have been promoted Sergeant—I *don't* think!

BULL.

SUCKING DOVES.

GERMANY and JOHN BULL (in unison): "After you, Sir!"

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By Verax.

The "Bears" contrive to keep the investing public in a state of nervousness which causes their almost complete abstention from business in various markets. The *South African* department continues to receive their special attentions, and, according to rumour, three more *agents de change* in Paris have been asked to resign owing to revelations which followed the recent failure there. We are also threatened with wholesale failures, and in the *Rhodesian* market it is frankly admitted that a special "Bear" syndicate is at work. All of which confirms me in the view that, one of these days, the tables will be turned upon the ursine party, with serious results to themselves. *Mexican securities* are still being overshadowed by the revolutionary reports, but now that President Taft is piping universal peace this bogey should soon be laid. The rise in *Home Rails* has now culminated, but the undertone is good, and the advance will no doubt be resumed as the Coronation approaches. The rise in *Metropolitan* and *Tube* stocks is not surprising, although an agreement with the *General Omnibus Co.* seems as yet far off, and that with the Trams hardly possible. Foreigners have moved irregularly, apart from the rise in Peru Prefs. *Canadian Pacifics* are still on the up-grade, as I said they would be, *Trunks* following at a respectful distance. The *Yankee* market has braced up again, for no particular reason, and the West Australian *Bullfinch* boom has collapsed. The rise in *Consols* and other gilt-edged stocks has for the time being come to a halt, owing to the issue of a new Indian loan, but that is merely a temporary influence. *Gold* is accumulating at the Bank of England at a rapid rate, and another reduction in the Bank rate is talked of early in April. In fact, this is to be a year of plenty and cheap money. *Rubber shares* are likely to come into strong demand again on the splendid dividends, and *Oil shares* should be a good second.

Mexican Securities and the Revolutionary Movement—A Case for Standing Firm.

One of the minor bogies of the Stock market has of late been the fear of a serious revolution in Mexico, for what was characterised by exaggerated cables from New York as a revolution was as unlike the real thing as possible. The matter, however, began to look more important when the American Government sent troops to the Texas border, and war vessels to the Mexican coast. Matters apparently have not greatly improved since, and it is difficult to make out how much fighting is going on in that country, but as far as is possible to judge from impartial advices, there is little fear of any serious upheaval. Unfortunately, however, the market is always unpleasantly affected by such rumours, and especially in this case, as a considerable "Bull" account has been piled up in Mexican stocks, and more particularly in Mexican Rails. Prices have, therefore, declined from the top recently touched, as will be seen from the following table :—

	Lowest, 1910.	Lowest, 1911.	Highest, 1911.	Present Prices.
Mexican 5 per cent.	99¼	100½	102½	100½
Nat. Rys. First Prefs.	62½	70	75⅛	71⅛
Mexican Ry. Ord.	34	47½	57	57⅛
Do. First Pref.	132½	137	143	139⅛
Do. Second Pref.	72⅛	91½	97	95
Mexican Southern	97½	101⅜	105⅜	103
Mexico N.W. Bonds.	81	85⅛	97	82⅜
Nat. Bank of Mexico	47	43	44½	43⅛
Mexican Lt. Power	66¼	88	95⅛	88⅛
Mexico Trams	118	124	131	125⅛
Mex. Mines El Oro	6 5-16	7	8	7⅛

Railways are naturally the most important item, as the company has some fifteen thousand miles of railway, of which nearly thirteen thousand miles are absolutely owned by the Mexican Government or by companies in which the Government holds the predominant interest. The chief interest, of course, centres in the position of the Mexican Railway, the position of which was remarkably bright until the present trouble broke out. The company, moreover, is doing well, and the last weekly traffic return shows an increase of $41,400, while from January 1st to March 14th the increase was $211,200. Although very favourable, this return has not, however, prevented some little back-sliding in the price. This also applies to the Traction group. If, as may be at least assumed, the United States authorities have taken the measure of precaution of sending troops to Texas in order to prevent American filibusters from crossing the frontier, the recent mischievous movement should promptly be quelled.

The Fall in Tanganyika—Other Rhodesians Neglected, But a Sharp Recovery Close at Hand.

The banging of *Kaffir* shares is going on apace. The Paris Bourse is evidently still childishly angry, and there is a lot of derelict stock trying to find a home, partly in connection with abandoned options. I have shown in last week's issue, by means of a table, what excellent yields are now to be obtained for the investor in dividend-paying shares. I can only say that those will be foolish who throw their shares away, and those wise who buy while the shares are flat, as there is very little doubt but that this market will turn suddenly. In the meantime, such talk as that reported of Mr. H. C. Hull, Minister of Finance in the Union Parliament, that the Witwatersrand deposits showed a prospective output of £2,000,000,000, is utterly absurd, and can only do harm. There is no possible basis for such an estimate. Rhodesians are also sagging, but in this case it is chiefly *Tanganyika Concessions* which are the weak spot in the market. The selling seems to come from Brussels, and those will be prudent who leave these alone in the future. The following table shows the leading active shares, and the changes in price :—

	Highest, 1910.	Lowest, 1910.	Price, Jan. 10, 1911.	Price, Mar. 20, 1911.
Lonely Reef	65/-	51/6	2 15-16	2⅜
Rhod. Gold Mng. & Invest.	—	—	1⅛	1¼
Shamva Mines	5⅛	3⅛	5	3 11-16
Amal. Prop. of Rhod. (5/-)	13/6	5/3	8/6	7/-
Antelope (5/-)	2⅜	4/3	2⅛	8/6*
Bucks Reef	3 19-32	1 7-16	2 1-16	1⅛
Chartered	2 1-16	1 15-32	1⅛	1 17-32
Chicago Gaika	22/6	6/6	15/6	13/-
Eldorado Basket	4 3-16	2 15-16	3⅛	3 3-16
Enterprise	78/9	2 3-16	2 11-16	2 1-32
Exp. Land & Minerals (5/-)	13/6	6/3	8/3	6/3
Gaika Gold	49/-	16/10½	1 23-32	1⅛
Giant Mines	5 7-16	3 7-16	4⅛	3 21-32
Globe and Phœnix (5/-)	3	1 13-32	2 7-16	2⅛
Hay Mines	—	—	1 15-16	1 17-32
Rhodesia Cons. (10/-)	—	—	8/6	7/3
Rhodesia Exp.	4⅛	2 3-16	3 3-16	2⅜
Rezende	3 1-16	1⅛	2 7-16	1 15-16
Selukwe (5/-)	25/7½	3/-	3/-	3/3
Surprise	75/-	6/4½	1 7-32	1 1-32
Tanganyika Cons.	7⅛	5⅛	5 13-16	4 9-16
Willoughby Cons. (10/-)	25/6	10/6	21/-	18/-
Cam & Motor (27/6) (17/6 pd.)	—	—	1-16 pm.	15/6†
Falcon Mines	—	—	1⅛	1⅛
Thistle Etna	50/6	12/6	1⅛	1 3-16
Ldn. Rhod. Mng. & Lds.	2 5-16	1 7-16	2	1⅛

* Split into 5/- shares. † Now 17/6 paid.

There are here excellent purchases to be made, which will look very cheap when the market takes a turn. The news, moreover, is very satisfactory. From the *Globe and Phœnix* very rich developments are again reported at depth. A reef has been cut in the *Antelope Mine* at the eighth level. The *Gaika Gold* is having a good run with its mill in March. From the *Lonely Reef* and *Hay Mines* rich assays are again reported, and on the Comet claims, belonging to the *Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia*, work has begun. A Rhodesian share that should be bought at the present low price of 4s. 9d. is *Rhodesia and Ashanti*, which will give a good account of itself in better markets. The company is developing properties in both Rhodesia and West Africa, and the shares are also dealt in in the Jungle market, in which there are going to be lively times directly. West Australians are dull, with the exception of *Golden Horseshoe*, which have improved to 4⅛, the lode having again been cut at the 2,800 ft. level. *Ivanhoe* and *Kalgurli* are steady, but *Bullfinch Proprietary*, on Colonial sales, have collapsed to 1 7/16, and the other *Finches* are under a cloud. Very little is doing in *Barrier Mines*, and *Mexican Gold Mines* are slightly firmer: *Mexico Mines of El Oro* at 7⅞, *El Oro* at 24s. 6d., *Esperanza* at 1 11-16. Copper and Copper Mines are still fluctuating. *Amalgamated* are now quoted at 65½. The *Rio Tinto* dividend is expected from day to day, and the market is nervous, the shares being quoted about 67⅜. One of the members of the Tin Syndicate having retired, the sale of his holding caused a decline, but the price is up again at £179, and it is now expected to go much higher.

Jungle Mines Marking Time—Waiting for South Africans to Join the Upward Movement.

The manner in which the Jungle market is behaving is absolutely tantalising for the unfortunate people who have embarked their money in West African mines. Every few weeks what looks like a coming revival casts its shadow before us, but after a week or two the little buying movement disappears again, and all is as dull as before. The latest improvement occurred last week, but after it had gone a little way a fresh pause has occurred. The leader of the market is the *Gold Coast Amalgamated*, which is the holdings company of the *Consolidated Goldfields*, and the shares in which have now improved to 2 9-16. Messrs. Wernher, Beit and Company are interested in the *Prestea Mines*, and there are innumerable small syndicates, belonging to no particular group, which occasionally publish reports. Thus, for instance, a reader of John Bull wants me to inform him what the new *West African Properties, Ltd.*, is about which he reads that eleven reefs have been discovered on the Nquanta property, and that samples from the outcrop had yielded 28 ozs. to the ton. I should advise my reader not to

excite himself as yet over this information, as by the time the mail reports are to hand the 28 ozs. to the ton would probably have shrunk considerably. There are, however, some better reports at hand, especially from the *Taquah*, where on the ninth level in the main north drive some assays as high as 101s. 6d. per ton average over 58 ins., and in the south drive an average of 197s. 3d. per ton over 45 ins. have been obtained. Then, again, a cable is to hand from the *Ashanti Development*, which has struck pay ore in the Oboum Mine, in the new adit No. 4, going 1 oz. 2 dwts. per ton, over a width of 8 ft. Neither of these shares, nor those of the new *West African Properties*, above referred to, are, however, so far on the market, the owners being apparently of a retiring disposition. The following is a list of the shares more generally dealt in, and it will be seen that the price is still to some extent below that of October, 1910, and distinctly below the highest of 1909 :—

	Share.	Highest, 1909-10.	Lowest,	Price, Oct. 31, 1910.	Price, Mar. 20 1911
Abbontiakoon	10/-	16/6	7/9	10/9	9/3
Abosso	—	3 3-16	1½	2½	2
Ashanti Goldfields	4/-	2½	11/-	2 1-16	1 13/16
Bibiani	—	19/-	6/-	8/6	6/6
Broomassie	10/-	14/-	5/3	9/-	6/9
Champion Gold Reefs	5/-	3 13-16	1/4	2 3-16	1 9-16
Effuenta	5/-	10/-	2/9	4/6	3/-
Fanti Consolidated	10/-	28/6	12/6	20/3	17/3
Fanti Mines	5/-	12/-	4/6	6/3	5/6
Gold Coast Amalgamated	—	5½	1 13-16	3½	2 9-16
Himan Concessions	—	32/6	6/6	1 3-16	1½
New Gold Props	—	7/3	6d.	3/9	2/6
Offin River	—	20/3	4/-	9/6	6/3
Prestea Block A	—	38/-	15/-	34/6	33/3
Prestea Mines	7/6	11/6	2/6	8/3	9/6
Taquah Exp.	—	3 15-16	1 15-16	2 3-16	2½
Wassau	10/-	17/9	6/-	8/6	9/-
Wassau West	10/-	18/9	5/-	7/-	4/9
North Tarkwa Synd.	5/-	9/-	3/-	4/9	4/-

The *Prestea Block "A"* is giving its plant a trial run, with a view to the resumption of crushing on May 1. The *Broomassie* has already resumed crushing, and *Ashanti Goldfields* continue to open up in the most encouraging fashion, assays ranging up to over 72 dwts. of gold per ton. *Prestea Mines*, which are shortly to be incorporated with *Prestea Block "A,"* stand now at 9s. 9d. The *Ashanti Goldfields* property, too, continues to open up in an encouraging way, latest assays ranging up to 72 dwts. per ton. Thus the market would be all right if they had only a public to buy the shares, and if the big houses were to give the shares that inside support without which the market cannot prosper.

BIG RUBBER DIVIDENDS FALL FLAT ON THE MARKET—INTEREST GRADUALLY SHIFTING FROM HIGH TO LOW-PRICED SHARES.

The Rubber market is moving rather strangely at present, Para being weak, while Plantation is distinctly better, and further forward contracts have been entered into by the leading plantation companies as far as into 1912 at very remunerative prices. It seems, therefore, that the decline in Para is more artificial than real. Eventually, however, the splendid dividends must have their effect. The *Pataling*, for instance, pays a final dividend for 1910 of 125 per cent., making 325 per cent. for the whole year, which compares with a total of 125 per cent. for 1909, and with only 45 per cent. for 1908. Yet these shares stick at 3! *Golden Hopes* have hardened a trifle to 5⅛, their final dividend being 20 per cent., making 40 per cent. for the past year, as against 30 per cent. for 1909. *Selaba Rubber Estates* have been hoisted to 1⅞ premium, this company paying a balance dividend of 12½ per cent., which makes 17½ per cent. for the fifteen months ended December 31, 1910. The *Bukit Lintang* announces an interim dividend of 2s. per fully-paid, and 9d. per partly-paid share. *Linggis* are with difficulty maintained at about 50s., *Vallambrosa* at 36s., *Anglo-Malay* at 23s. 9d., etc. It seems to me, really, that the trend of investment is now towards the promising companies in the lower-priced group, and, in view of the recent vicissitudes of the market, who can blame investors and small operators from taking as little risks as possible? Amongst the cheap shares, for instance, *Sampang Java* at 2s. 6d., and *West Jequie* at 2s. 3d., should be mentioned, both having commenced tapping. The report of the last-mentioned, which has just been issued, states that 5,395 acres have been transferred to the company, while another 755 acres have to be transferred. The area under cultivation is estimated to contain 423,950 rubber trees, of which 129,800 are tappable. Vigorous tapping is in progress, and the first shipments of the season are on the way to the port. The meeting of shareholders takes place on Friday next. *Island Para* shares also deserve attention at their price of 2s. to 2s. 3d. The following are brief particulars :—

ISLAND PARA RUBBER ESTATES.—Capital £70,000, issued 400,000 shares of 2s. each. This company acquired a large freehold estate of some 4,000 acres, and entered into possession on January 2nd. The first consignment of rubber, of 2,600 lbs., has been dispatched by steamer from Para on the 17th ult., and it is anticipated that the output will be close upon 50 tons for this year. A contract has been entered into for the sale of 30,000 lbs. on account, which should alone bring in nearly £10,000 profit. The remaining output at the present price of 7s. should also fetch good profits. These shares are quoted 2s. to 2s. 3d.

Natal is now also to pay tribute to rubber production. It appears that remarkable results have been obtained from the latex of Tirucalli trees, which were found, when tested, to contain from 10 to 12 per cent. good hard rubber and over 50 per cent. of resin. The *Tirucalli Rubber Concessions*, the shares in which have recently been introduced on the Stock Exchange, holds rights from the Natal Government over an area of 600 square miles, and throughout the concession are to be found these trees. According to the report of Dr. Schidrovitz on the bulk samples, tapping would be the most economical method, and the cost of production only 10¾d. per lb. The shares of the *Rubber Exploration Company* have come into strong demand at 2s. on the particulars issued by the board. On the basis of the assets the intrinsic value would warrant a price of 3s. 6d. for the shares.

CONTINENTAL FINANCIAL TROUBLES ALSO AFFECT OIL SHARES—FURTHER IMPORTANT MAIKOP DEVELOPMENTS.

The financial troubles in Paris and on other leading Continental Bourses have also affected the Oil share market to a certain extent, and there have been occasional spasms of forced liquidation. The shares so sacrificed have, however been well absorbed. The outlook continues of the most encouraging character, but operators have not yet fully recognised the immense possibilities held out by the adoption of oil fuel by the Admiralty, as well as by leading German and other shipping lines. The American and Mexican railways, moreover, are adopting oil fuel to a constantly increasing extent. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that investors with an eye to the future have made such a rush for the shares of the *Oil Trust of Galicia* that applicants got only about 16 per cent., and the shares are quoted at about ⅞ premium. In well-informed quarters a much higher price is freely predicted. The news from the field is highly encouraging, and the policy of the consolidation of producers and of the pipe-line interests in Galicia is making considerable headway. Six of the principal pipe-line companies have already entered into working agreements with each other, and negotiations are proceeding for the enlargement of the Union. A large oil area is still available, and the systematic working of the same is alone necessary in order to achieve financial success. The *Oil Trust of Galicia* should assume a very prominent position in the development of the field, with the best results for its shareholders. The company already owns six producing properties, and its present production is at the rate of over 100,000 tons of crude oil per annum, the net profit being estimated at least £87,000 per annum, while dividends are expected to commence at the outset at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum. My prime favourite in the Maikop field is *Black Sea Oilfields*, at 21s. 6d., and the latest news is to the effect that Well No. 13, at depth 315 feet, is overflowing periodically, eighteen minutes flow and twelve minutes stop. This strike of oil, it may be pointed out, is on Plot 513, where oil has already been obtained in Well No. 2. *Maikop and General Petroleum Trust* experienced a sharp fall to ⅝, on reports that the company is in want of further capital, but subsequently recovered to ¾. Meanwhile, its subsidiary, the *Maikop Areas*, has accomplished a very important step in the proving of the Maikop oilfield by the striking of oil on its Plot 238. *Shell Transports* have fluctuated a good deal, and now stand at 88s., while *Spies* are firm at 32s. 6d., on dividend hopes. *Mexican Eagle*, after very sharp movements, are steadying again at 32s. 6d. *General Oil and Finance* are well-supported at 6d. discount.

TRUE INWARDNESS OF RUSSIAN VENTURES.

I notice that *Russian Ventures* have recently advanced sharply to 6s. 6d., and I have received various enquiries as to the why and wherefore of this rise. This is a reconstruction of *Russian Estates and Mines, Limited*, which held a few interests in mining shares, and was believed to own the *Maikop Selected Oilfields, Limited*. The shares then went to nothing, and a reconstruction was carried through, in which, as far as I know, the Company did not obtain any further properties. Why then this advance, as *Maikop Selected* alone would hardly justify any improvement. Is the reason of the improvement that the shareholders have all been shaken out, so that promoters have got the property for nothing? I shall try to solve this problem in the course of the week.

JOHN BULL, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from 24th March to 6th April, 1911 (inclusive), for the preparation of Dividend Warrants upon the Preference Shares for the half-year ending 31st March.

By order of the Board,

COLES L. HARRIS, *Secretary*.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX.

(1) Letters containing inquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 2, Copthall Buildings, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

(2) Correspondents should adopt either a nom-de-plume, or mention initials, under which the replies will appear in the paper. The stocks or subjects inquired about should also be numbered.

(3) Replies are made only in the ordinary way through the columns of this journal under the above heading, and not by letter.

(4) In no circumstances will the proprietors undertake the sale or purchase of stocks or shares.

(5) If inquirers wish it, for transacting business, the names and addresses of respectable firms of stockbrokers, members of the London Stock Exchange, will be supplied to them, in which case a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.

(6) A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

Ulundi Gold Mines.—Jersey Lily.—It seems to be a case of promises versus performances, and until the property is actually producing gold, I do not look for any appreciable improvement.

Kaffirs, Etc.—Boss.—The best of the Kaffirs mentioned are New Goch and Aurora West. The three rubber shares in question are good of their kind, but you can still do better in, for instance, Linggis, Jequie, West Jequie, Sampang, and David Young.

5 per Cent. Investment.—E. A. M.—(1) It is very difficult to forecast the course of Americans, especially at the present juncture, while also the dividend rate has been reduced from 6 to 5 per cent. Perhaps, however, it would be advisable to hold for the present. (2) You cannot get an absolutely safe 5 per cent. investment, but the following selection should answer your purpose:—Grand Trunk Second Preference at 101; Cambrian C Debentures at 80; Melbourne Electricity 5 per cent. Debentures at 94; and Borax Consolidated 6 per cent. Preferred Ordinary.

A Question of Liability.—White Owl.—It seems to be a question of your word against your broker's. I think he would have trouble in proving his claim, and I should not pay unless I were absolutely compelled.

Irons and Steels.—Carlton.—(1) Dorman Long are a fair holding of the kind, but cannot be called a sound investment. (2) 17s. 6d. (3) This has been forwarded.

Slaters.—Edbroad.—Your idea is not a bad one, if some unexpected development does not intervene. (1) 8 per cent. for each year. (2) Yes. (3) A fair speculation amongst catering shares.

Five Investments.—Anxious.—All five are good investments of their class, although not coming in what is known as the "gilt-edged" category." In the latter securities, the yield does not exceed 3½ per cent. per annum.

Foreign Investment.—Yesreg; M. V. S.; J. R. W.—You must decide yourself whether you go into this venture. It is, of course, speculative, but there are considerable possibilities.

West Rand Consols.—Consols.—A fair purchase amongst Kaffirs after the decline.

C.N. Con. Income Debs.—T. J. D.—A fair holding of the kind, but not gilt-edged.

£200 Investment.—Vera.—Put the money into gilt-edged Colonial bonds, such as Western Australian 3½ per cent., at about 96.

Traction Stocks.—A. B. C.—I certainly would not advise a purchase of General Omnibus after the very heavy rise, which is as much due to the catching of bears as to anything else. Chatham First Preference should be held. You bought too much of the last-mentioned stock, and should take an opportunity to lighten your load.

Bank Shares.—W. N. (Birmingham).—You certainly can employ your money to better advantage than by leaving it on deposit at very low rates. Of the banks mentioned, Nos. 1, 2, and 5 are the best, and the risk regarding uncalled liability is quite nominal.

Various.—A. C.—(1) I do not care for these bonds, which have but a narrow market, so that it is easier to buy than to sell. (2) Ogilvie Flour Mills, at 133; Dominion Textiles, at 77; Cartagena Railway 6 per cent. Debentures, at 76½; Arauco Second Mortgage Debentures, 6 per cent., at 101; Dominion Sawmills 6 per cent. Debentures, at 94. (3) No particular reason for selling Drury Lane shares.

Government Securities.—Anxious (Muswell Hill).—You should have adopted a more distinctive nom-de-plume. There is no reason for anxiety regarding any of your holdings Nos. 1 to 4, although these do not rank higher than second-grade. Canadian Pacific Preference (5), too, is all right.

Arauco, Etc.—Ninon.—(1) The Arauco Company has fair prospects, and the shares are a promising holding for a lock-up, but, of course, you must not load yourself up too much with them. (2) The oil shares in question are promising, but they are already at a substantial premium. From that point of view, you can do better in, say General Oil and Finance, which are still obtainable at slightly below par.

Small Investment in Rubber Shares.—Regular Reader (Bedford).—(1) Instead of these rubber shares, I think you had better select Jequie at 4s., or West Jequie at 2s.6d., or Island (Para) at about 2s. 3d. (2) What you require has been forwarded. If you give references, it would not be necessary to send cash in advance.

Debenture Investments.—They are respectable, but outside brokers, and I do not see the advantage of having your investments dictated by one particular firm, who would naturally get you to buy stocks in which they are interested. You had better deal with a member of the Stock Exchange.

Outside Brokers' Failure to Pay.—Selsup.—You ought to have looked after this matter long ago. As a matter of fact, this Shaftesbury Avenue firm has not paid anyone, and it is quite useless your sending me the documents.

Newspaper Shares.—Preference.—(1) I am sending you the name of a stockbroker, who deals in these shares, but you will not be able to get par, and I should think that you had better hold. The broker will also be able to enlighten you concerning your question No 2.

South-Easterns.—N. A.—With occasional reactions, South-Eastern stocks should go still higher, in view of the exceptionally bright outlook for the current year.

Bank Deposit.—Doubtful.—From every point of view the deposit would be safest in one of the leading London joint-stock banks, rather than in a Country Bank. But why not put the money into sound gilt-edged securities, which offer also a distinctly higher return for the money. Clyde.—Your best plan would be to invest the money in sound securities, and you can get up to 3½ per cent. per annum on stocks of the gilt-edged class, such as Colonial Government bonds, which are also always easily realisable. As regards the institution in question, remember that high rates are not compatible with absolute safety.

Miscellaneous Holdings.—J. T. E.—You have a mixed lot of holdings, amongst which London Ventures (No. 1), are about the best, and should be held for an improvement. I do not care much for Vaal River Diamonds (2), and the oil shares Nos. 3 and 4 are not amongst the best of their kind. The low-priced Rhodesians, Nos. 5 and 6, have proved very disappointing so far, and there is no option but to hold for a recovery along with other Rhodesians.

Rubbers, Kaffirs.—W. A.—Sampang Javas are a very promising holding amongst the coming rubber companies, but as the company has only been formed recently, you must give it a chance before talking of dividends. They are quite suitable for holding. Randfontein Centrals and Prestea Block A are equally promising, also from the dividend point of view.

Premium Bonds.—Panama.—The firm whose name I am sending you will be pleased to keep you informed as regards the drawings of Panama Bonds, for a small charge. They are thoroughly to be relied upon. Nemo (Shrewsbury).—(1) What you require has been forwarded. (2) This firm will do so. (3) You can obtain the *Moniteur des Intérêts des Materiels* from Messrs. Davis and Company, advertising agents, of Finch Lane, London, E.C. W. A.—(1) Certainly. (2) This Paris firm overcharges considerably. (3) I send you the name of a foreign banker in London, who makes a specialty of Premium Bonds, and who can give you all the further information. Gilbert.—It is quite correct that most of these bonds have their drawings, and that these ballots are carried on honourably, but some are much better than others, and I do not advise you to deal through the Paris firm in question, as they will charge you a great deal above market price. I am sending you the name of a reliable London firm of foreign bankers, who make a speciality of these, and who will deal with you fairly. H. (Manchester).—This foreign firm charge a great deal more than market price, but the bonds are genuine enough. Above all, you should not go into the combinations, as they always contain some bad ones. I send you the name and address of a firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of these, and who would deal fairly with you. They also supply information about the drawings. Tyro.—I prefer investment in sound securities myself, but, in accordance with your wishes, I send you the address of a respectable firm of foreign bankers in London, who make a speciality of dealings in Premium Bonds.

Outside Brokers.—Elmur.—You must be aware that I never recommend outside brokers, and I am certainly not inclined to depart from my rule in favour of the International Stock Exchange, Limited, of 139, Cannon Street. W. M. (Camden Town).—As you have never speculated in the way these outside brokers run their deals, you had better not commence now. The building society mentioned by you is not a suitable concern to invest money in. What you had better do is to put some money in Home railway stocks, or sound gold mines, to yield you from 4 to 5 per cent. I shall be pleased to give you the names of companies in which to invest. Jack (Ballyceare).—I have already had some complaints with regard to the outside brokers named by you, and should not advise you to deal with them. Those mentioned in the second instance are not much better. To deal in options with outside brokers is like licking honey off thorns. R. V. B.—I do not think the outside brokers concern mentioned by you is suitable for this kind of business, and you cannot transact business direct with the option dealers on the Stock Exchange. I therefore send you the address of a firm of stockbrokers, members of the Stock Exchange, who can deal with you in options. Jobell.—A stockbroker, member of the Stock Exchange, would not deal in such small amounts, nor do I think the bankers would be suitable. You should wait until you have saved money before speculating. E. C. L. (Leith, South Wales).—I am afraid that you have no claim upon these brokers, as you opened the American stocks before the heavy fall came, and you were run off. It shows the danger of this kind of speculation. Careful.—Respectable, but I consider the system very dangerous for their clients, as these people would no doubt gradually make you change the whole of your stocks in order to get you into stocks in which they are interested, and amongst which you will probably find some which are very difficult to sell again. A. G. (Birmingham).—I have had no complaints with regard to this firm, but you are, of course, aware that I prefer dealing with stockbrokers, who are members of the Stock Exchange. Get Square.—I am afraid you will find this a difficult task, but why will you deal with such people? Have you not had enough warning of the folly of entrusting shady bucket-shop keepers with your money? They are not philanthropists, but swindlers. I would not give anything for your chance of ever getting anything back. Scotus Berwick.—Outsiders; deal only with members of the Stock Exchange. Hesitation.—You are right to hesitate. Have nothing to do with this provincial bucket-shop, or you will only burn your fingers. Speculator.—Both outside concerns; my invariable advice is to deal only with members of the Stock Exchange. At any rate, you can then rely upon getting your profits. E. E. M.—I strongly advise you to have nothing to do with the firm of outside dealers mentioned by you. B. M. D.—(1) These are genuine enough, but (2) I do not think their methods will in the end benefit their clients, as (3) their rule is to make you change all your investments as far as possible, in order to replace them by such as are held by them, or are especially approved by them. The result would be that a good many of your new securities, although perhaps substantial enough, would be very difficult to resell. H. K.—I do not approve of the methods of the outside concern, and should advise you to deal only with members of the Stock Exchange. Novice (Nottingham).—I do not like this concern, or its methods. Torry.—I have had no complaints against these people, but you should preferably deal with a member of the Stock Exchange. Amongst oil shares, you might buy Black Sea Oilfields Ordinary at 21s. 9d., Oil Trust of Galicia, £1 shares, at ¼ prem.; and of rubber, Island (Para) 2s. shares at 2s. 6d., Jequie Syndicate shares at 4s. 3d., and West Jequie at 2s. 6d.

(A large number of replies are unavoidably held over)

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 93, Long Acre, W.C.

National General Insurance Co.—M. A. B. (Barnes).—We think so. It is a young company, but seems to be making good progress.

Status of Company.—H. J. C. (Ilkeston).—It is a good company for the purpose mentioned.

Canadian Insurance Co.—J. M. G. (Stirling).—The shares are not quoted on the London Stock Exchange.

Two Companies.—W. A. (Southfields).—Both are in the front rank of insurance companies.

City Life Assurance Co.—Sharpboy (High Wycombe).—The answer to your question is in the affirmative. W. H. (Bolton).—What is the explanation given by the company as to the delay?

Law Integrity Life Assurance Co.—Halcombe (Worcester).—We are inclined to think so.

The Century Insurance Company.—H. L. (Leicester).—We do not think so. The quinquennial investigation and valuation does not support your suggestion.

Value of Shares.—Anxious (Hastings).—The amount paid up is 10s., and the price about £5 6s.

Amalgamation of Companies.—F. S. (Ealing).—We understand that the statement to which you refer is correct, and that this Mutual Office is to be absorbed by the Alliance. We always hear with regret of a good independent Life Office being merged in another concern. We want more of those offices, not fewer.

Provident Association of London.—Bondholder (Southend).—You can get nothing except as a matter of grace, and we doubt very much whether you will get anything anyway. The terms are quite clear. Until you have paid in for five years, you cannot expect surrender value.

The Scottish Temperance Life Assurance Company.—S. S. (Glasgow).—The directors have recommended a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and a bonus at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

Pearl Life Assurance Company.—Policy Holder (Bristol).—It is rather early days to express an opinion as to the effect of the amalgamation, but we know of no sufficient reason to question Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady's opinion that the fusion of the two companies will have a favourable effect on the prosperity of the business.

Annuity.—Anxious Enquirer.—The Government annuity is, of course, quite safe, but you might also obtain the terms of the leading insurance companies, which are also safe to all intents and purposes. The latter might perhaps be more attractive. Of course, you will deal only with the highest class of companies, such as the Sun, Alliance, Royal, North British and Mercantile, etc.

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39 2 6	50 0 0	50 0 0	50 0 0	10 0 0	148 5 0
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Please forward me gratis and post free your booklet, "THE MODERN SYSTEM OF MONEY-MAKING," and other literature which is a clear explanation of how the above sums were made.

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"THE FLIGHTY SERIES."—II.

A SHORT HISTORY OF AVIATION.

By Archie de Bear.

CHAPTER III. (*continued*).

Quite unexpectedly, and at a moment's notice, Blériot was off like a shot, and almost before Hubert Latham had time to say "Louis Blériot," he had settled on Albion's hospitable shores.

But once more the Advertising Agents of the parties concerned had cause to grumble at the newspaper reporters. The first news of the feat which had been accomplished was universally recorded in terms something like the following:—

> Blériot left the coast of France at such-and-such an hour and landed near Dover, without mishap, at such-and-such an hour.

Now, Blériot is, in business hours, a manufacturer of powerful lamps, and as the other party concerned (the noble Lord of the *Daily Mail*) was also, it may be presumed without offence, not in the affair for the benefit of his health, the first telegraphic intimation of the accomplishment should, in all fairness, have been expressed ambiguously as follows:—

> Channel crossed. North Cliff, Dover, point at which Blériot chooses alight

(the last word making the reader's thoughts turn immediately to illumination and *lamps*).

Thus both sides would have been satisfied, and the possibility of the aviator having alighted on *South* Cliff is of small importance. Very few people were about at the time, and the difficulty could have been easily overcome. Justice, in truth, was not meted out where it was merited.

And nothing remains to be said about the Channel crossing, the object of this book being to record only two classes of events—those which have not previously been recorded, and those which have never taken place.

Chapter the third must, therefore, conclude at this point.

CHAPTER IV.
Et Cetera.

The hall-mark is placed on a literary work when familiar Latin expressions are used in entitling one or more of its chapters. But it is not always easy to perform this trick compatibly with reason and commonsense, and the present author is to be congratulated upon having succeeded in a difficult case.

. . . . . .

After Blériot had crossed the Channel, and the *Daily Mail* had crossed his cheque, many were the gigantic projects made in the new world of Aviation.

Exhibitions and race meetings were organised, and the first of these took place at Rheims—where the jackdaws come from. Here it was that Farman, to the great delight of the punsters, easily beat all existing distance records, and here also Latham reached the height of his success by winning the Altitude contest.

Following the success of the meetings at Rheims came many other meetings in various parts, including two or three in England, which were more or less (more less) successful.

The most remarkable of these meetings was that held at Juvisy, near Paris. Here, on the most important day of the "week"—the Sunday—*all the aviators succeeded in flying out of sight of the most important people who had left Paris to witness the flying!*—including the author of "The Flighty Series."

The cause of this wonderful achievement was that the said Most Important People were successfully "held up" in the train, for the best part of the day, on the line between Paris and Juvisy—ostensibly through inadequate arrangements for an unexpected crowd.

Paulhan, the Comte de Lambert and the other flighty men of the day owe a debt of gratitude to the railway company which they never hope to repay. On the contrary, it was the railway company itself which found itself out of pocket, after repairing the damage done on the line by the incensed important people, who, unreasonably enough, positively did not want the aviators to fly out of sight!

Another event, of more recent date, which is worthy of mention is the flight by several noted aviators over the sea and the rocks off Monte Carlo. This was all very splendid in its way, but the aviators showed singular lack of originality. How many people, before aeroplanes were thought of, have journeyed to Monte Carlo to "take the air" and, at the same time, to risk finding themselves "on the rocks"!

These young aviators should really be a little enterprising, and avoid the commonplace.

To all parts of the world the aviation fever has spread. And each district that it has reached has caught it very badly, and has been carried away in its enthusiasm. Even in Egypt a meeting has been held, and there the craze for aviation has become so great that, owing to the fact that the aeroplanes flew around the Pyramids, the natives now pronounce and write the name *Pharaoh* in two syllables—*Ph-Aero.*

No history of aviation would, of course, be complete without some mention being made of Paulhan's magnificent nocturnal flight (Madame Paulhan being fully aware of his nocturnal flightiness) from London to Manchester, for which he received from the *Daily Mail* no less a sum than ten thousand pounds sterling. The same paper now offers a similar amount for a flight from London to Paris, and hopes that Mr. Grahame-White will suffer temporarily from insomnia. With prizes like this to be won, the successful aviator of the future has a good chance of going early into retirement—his heavier-than-air having made him heavier than a millionaire.

. . . . . .

In short, aviation has come upon us so rapidly and so successfully that its products have not come upon us. The new science has come to stop, for it is keeping on the move. The Wrights, the Blériots, the Lathams and the Paulhans have heralded the dawn of a flighty era, and a spirit of aviation is, as it should be, in the air.

Even the rules of the air have been passed, and in them may be found the expression, "High road of the air." This is good; it is indeed the "high road," and is not now the time for the ancient "high road" to be called the "low road"?

So brilliant a start having been made, the whole world now expects that every aviator will continue to hold his head (and his machine) high. The more snobbish he becomes—the more he looks down on the rest of the world—the happier the rest of the world will be.

Eh, men?

(To be continued.)

"A VILLAGE HAMPDEN."

Some time ago we commented upon the assault upon the premises of the Royston Golf Club by Mr. R. E. Sanders, a well-known resident of Royston (Herts), as a protest against an alleged infringement by the Golf Club of the rights of the people. Much feeling was aroused at the time, and legal proceedings were threatened on both sides. Since then, however, wiser counsels have prevailed, Mr. Sanders having been elected a member of the Golf Club and a conservator of Royston Heath. He, on his part, met the Club in a very sportsmanlike spirit, and it is hoped that all bitter feeling has now passed away.

Messrs. Austin Reed, Limited, have opened up a West End branch of their business at 113, Regent Street, W. (corner of Vigo Street), where there will always be a selection of their well-known "Summit" Collars and Shirts.

"UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT."

LOTINGA'S WEEKLY.

"LOTINGA'S WEEKLY" is now a stable companion of "JOHN BULL," and is rapidly getting back to its old form.

EVERY WEDNESDAY. ONE PENNY.

(This is an example of an enlargement 3½ in. high, but we give you one NEARLY LIFE-SIZE.)

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PRICE ONLY 1/3 AS SPECIMENS.

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"IS THE OFFER GENUINE?"

Again you feel inclined to ask—"Is the offer genuine?" We have thousands of unsolicited testimonials to prove that it *is* so, but read the statements of two authorities whose word cannot for one moment be doubted.

"**Truth**" says of us

"*They are doing their work in a thoroughly satisfactory style.*"

Mr. Child Bayley, Editor of the well-known paper "**Photography and Focus,**" says:

"*They are good, straightforward, photographic enlargements.*"

DO NOT WAIT. FILL UP THE COUPON NOW.

If we were charging you a high price you might have cause to wait; but the price is so low that you need not wait a single day longer. Post your order now. Send us the best photo possible (the better the photo, the better the result), and enclose 1/3 for each enlargement required. Write your name and address clearly on the back of *each* photo and state if a Bust Picture is required, otherwise it will be made like the original. We deliver in from 14 to 18 days and return your photo uninjured. Remember you incur no further liability whatever. No extra charge for groups.

Cut out this Coupon.

COUPON FOR "ELECTROPHOT" SPECIMENS.

To the ELECTROPHOT CO., Welsbach House, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.

Enclosed I send you .....photo(s) to be enlarged on the terms of your advertisement in JOHN BULL, March 25, 1911. Such Enlargement(s) to be delivered to me free of expense within 18 days after the receipt by you of this Coupon, photo(s), and remittance. I also send.....s.....d. in payment for same at 1s. 3d. each.

NAME .....
Write clearly.

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Cheques and P.O.'s to be crossed London County and Westminster Bank, King's Cross Branch.

JOHN BULL.

Sign the form below and gain relief from your skin trouble

A Message to Skin Sufferers

Skin troubles are disfiguring, irritating, and humiliating. You know how you dread the idea of a skin complaint, and no effort, therefore, ought to be too great to keep your skin in perfect health and beauty, or to restore it to this condition should you be suffering from any skin disease. The Antexema treatment is the one certain method of doing this; it is equally successful in every type of skin trouble, and can be adopted without interfering with your occupation or comfort. This being so, there can be no excuse whatever for continuing to suffer, and if you do, you really have no one but yourself to blame. Always remember you can be cured, and one application of Antexema will convince you of the instant relief it gives.

Let us warn you very emphatically of the danger of neglected skin troubles. The worst of these start with redness or roughness of the skin, a rash, a little patch of pimples, or something which seems of but slight importance. The trouble spreads and gets worse, the pimples break, and then you find yourself suffering from severe skin illness. Stop such troubles in their first stage by using Antexema.

Anything that affects skin health or detracts from its appearance is a form of skin illness, and is curable by Antexema—but only by Antexema. Pimples and blackheads are forms of skin illness, and red, rough, scurfy skin, bad legs, face spots and blotches are all varieties of skin illness, and the enemies of good looks and comfort. Then, there are the skin troubles of babies and children, also facial blemishes, ringworm, leg wounds, different kinds of rashes and eruptions and scores of other unpleasant complaints, and most frequent of all are the various kinds of eczema, which cause terrible suffering. All these skin troubles disappear if Antexema is used. If you have any skin trouble, take it in hand immediately; make your skin clear, healthy, and spotless before it has time to get worse. Don't delay, for delay is dangerous.

Do your duty to your skin. Go to your chemist or stores, and get Antexema to-day. Boots' Cash Chemists, Army and Navy, Civil Service Stores, Harrod's, Selfridge's, Whiteley's, Lewis and Burrows', supply it at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle. Also in India, Australia, Canada, Africa, and throughout Europe. If you wish to try this all-British skin cure beforehand, sit down and

Sign This Form

To the Antexema Company, 83, Castle Road, London, N.W.

Please send booklet "Skin Troubles," for which I enclose 3 penny stamps, also Free Trial of complete Antexema treatment, consisting of Antexema, Antexema Soap, and Antexema Granules, which purify the blood.

Name .....

Address .....

JOHN BULL, March 25, 1911.

"Antexema"

CURES EVERY SKIN ILLNESS

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. Clement Scott.

Odds and Ends.

There are strange rumours in the air, and stories of still stranger doings. Mr. Laurence Irving has been caught flitting hither and thither with an inch tape in his hands measuring certain stages of certain theatres, with a view to taking over the lease or management of one of them. The precise playhouse has not (as we go to press) as yet been definitely decided upon, but if the size and dimensions of a particular theatre are all the young actor desires, then be prepared for a surprise. But as Mr. Bernard Shaw has said, "You Never Can Tell," so maybe something will crop up before the agreement is signed, and then heigh, presto! Mr. Irving will take over the—no, no, for the moment I must be dumb. Isn't it dreadful to know, and not be allowed to speak?

The Follies.

Don't tell me that bad times, as they are called, seriously affect the amusement market. Bad plays, and bad shows do, and if you want a proof of the truth of these words, just go and see the crowds that fill the Apollo Theatre nightly, and listen to the peals of spontaneous laughter which greet Mr. Pelissier and his marvellously clever company in their remarkable entertainment. Mr. Pelissier imitates to the life the tricks, manners, and affectations of Maud Allan, and without a doubt this is the best bit of fun that this extraordinary comedian has ever given us. It shows up vividly how easily the public is spoofed, and how all the humbugging nonsense of the so-called classical dancing is nothing more nor less than what the Americans call "swank." Mr. Pelissier has such a delightful way of taking you into his confidence, too, that at moments the desire to converse with him, even although he is on the other side of the footlights, becomes almost irresistible. "Inconstant George," "Henry VIII." and "Count Hannibal" done into "potted plays" are absolutely indescribable, and even in this fastidious age everyone must recognise the brilliancy of Morris Harvey in his masterful imitations. Lewis Sydney, Gwennie Mars, Ethel Allandale, Muriel George, Effie Cook, and the rest of them all enter heart and soul into the spirit of the refined—never for an instant coarse—burlesques, and the result is long and uproarious applause. As guide and counsellor in chief of the "buck up and be merry" school—H. G. Pelissier is "IT."

At the Pavilion.

Described as a Grand Guignol thriller, I went to the Pavilion prepared for a shudder, to see "Die Nihilistin" played in dumb show by Herr Spontelli and his company. It is a weird little drama, and at this particular moment, with the atmosphere charged with the whisperings from opium dens, secret societies, and Anarchist plottings, it should prove an attraction. Apart from this sketch though, Mr. Frank Glenister has provided a splendid programme for the Piccadilly music-hallers. Miss José Collins, the handsome daughter of the inimitable Lottie Collins of the never-to-be-forgotten 'Ta-ra-ra-Boom-De-ay' days, has improved immensely. Her voice is fuller, richer, and more resonant, and in her black gown and huge big hat she looks a perfect picture. Mr. Tom Clare is also a great success, and the dancing of the big black-eyed Princess D'Aryaba most alluring. What will the people do when the Pavilion is closed for reconstruction—and the Tivoli as well—two of London's most popular variety halls?

Special Dance Matinee.

Her Grace the Duchess of Somerset, is organising a special dance matinée at the Globe Theatre, which is to be given on Friday, March 31st, under the distinguished patronage of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, in aid of the Invalid Kitchens of London. The programme will include "The Abbé's Garden," written and composed by Dora Bright, which will be presented for the first time, and in which Cecil Crofton, Beatrice Collier, Madame Zanfretta and others will appear. Lady Tree, and Miss Marie Löhr will play a short piece, Mr. Charles Hawtrey has given permission for "The Portrait" to be given, Miss Lydia Kyasht will dance, and so will Miss Phyllis Bedells. There's an attractive afternoon for you! Tickets may be bought at the Globe Theatre, and also from the Duchess of Somerset, 35, Grosvenor Square.

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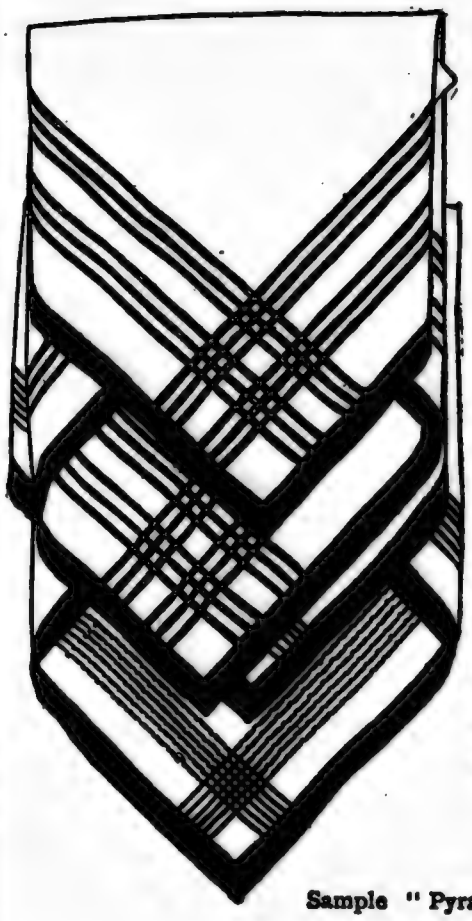

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SECOND CLASS return ticket to PARIS; 6 days' good hotel accommodation; two drives; omnibus transfer; free conveyance of 56 lbs. of baggage; the services of an Interpreter from London to Paris and of English speaking Lecturers whilst on the drives in Paris.

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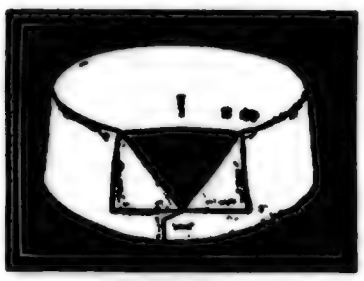

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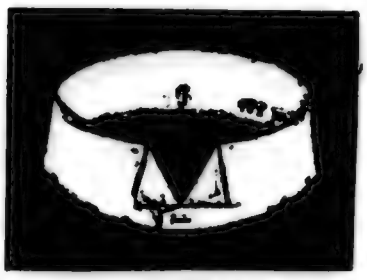

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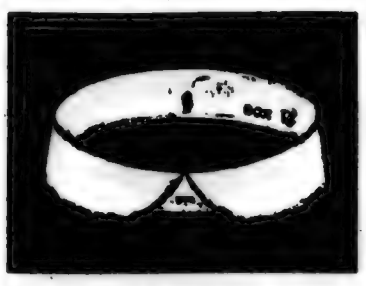

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CASTLE Collars

are faced with our pure Irish Linen, which retains its snowy *linen* whiteness after many washings. The shapes are good without being extreme, —AND the price even lower than is often charged for collars much inferior.

Dress Shirts, "Matchless" quality, 8/11 each; with pleated fronts, 6/6 each. Shirts refitted, 14/- per half dozen. Zephyr or Oxford Shirts, best quality, made to order, 6/3 each. Pyjama Suits, Ceylon Flannel, summer weight, 7/11 suit.

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"JOHN BULL'S" SEARCHLIGHT ON VIBRATION

OR

PULSATION TREATMENT OF ILLNESS.

STARTLING FACTS BROUGHT TO LIGHT.

Curative vibration, or mechanical pulsation, is very much to the front at the present moment. As a treatment for the alleviation of pain and the cure of certain illnesses it has been proved to the satisfaction of the most eminent medical authorities that it is one of the most effective forces ever placed within the reach of suffering humanity. The world-wide interest it has created leaves no room for doubt that much as it is appreciated at the present moment, curative vibration is destined to become far more general in use in the immediate future, and because of this the unscrupulous will doubtless find it a field to exploit.

So far as lies within its power, JOHN BULL is, however, determined, at all costs and risks, that its readers shall not be imposed upon.

Naturally, when it is claimed for one particular form of Vibrator that it is in every respect superior to every other machine offered to the public, it remains for those who make the statement to prove their words or eat them, and this is exactly the invitation which JOHN BULL made on behalf of its readers to the Veedee Company, of 96, Southwark Street, London, S.E. It is certain that the Veedee Company make the most startling claims regarding the virtues of the Veedee Vibrator. Asked what were the principal claims made for the instrument, the Veedee Company's Manager replied:

> "The Veedee, invented in London, was patented and introduced to the medical profession and public here in 1903, and so by years ante-dates any other Vibrator or Pulsator at present on this market. It is not first in point of date only, but is still first in the points of practicability, use, and value—indeed, it is still the *only* really practical, because adjustable, hand-worked Vibrator at present on this market. It is covered by no less than 61 patents and trade-marks, which in practically all civilised countries protect its essential and best features from appearing in any imitations. Perhaps a better Vibrator or Pulsator than the Veedee may yet appear; if so we shall welcome it, and probably buy it into our business. But it has not appeared yet."

Far from showing any inclination to modify this statement, the Veedee Company, through its Manager, intimated that it would only be too pleased to give JOHN BULL every opportunity of proving whether it was wrong.

When the Manager placed a Veedee in our hands we were agreeably surprised at its lightness, even as we had been at first sight impressed with its dainty elegance, and we were still more surprised at the smoothness and noiselessness with which it revolved at even its highest speed of 8,000 revolutions per minute. On the face of it, it was apparent that the Veedee Vibrator embodied the highest constructional skill and the finest materials. Still, as we indicated, these points alone did not justify all the sweeping claims made for its unique superiority.

The Veedee Manager smilingly agreed, and drew attention to a small thumb-screw in the centre of the flywheel.

> "That," he said, "is one of the secrets of the superiority of the Veedee. You will not find it on any other Vibrator, and it is because of what that simple little thumb-screw enables one to do with a Veedee that the Veedee is the only scientific adjustable hand-driven Vibrator at present being sold in this country.
>
> "Let me tell JOHN BULL readers just what that nut does. It enables the Veedee Vibrator to do something that no other Vibrator can do, that is to *regulate the strength* of the vibration which it creates, to give different lengths of stroke, producing just the amount of vibratory force required.
>
> "Lighter or heavier pressure of a Vibrator on the part being treated has no more to do with the penetrative power of the vibration than light or heavy pressure of a gun to the shoulder can control the distance the shot will carry. The essential feature in a Vibrator that governs this and all its use and value is its adjustability.
>
> "This is such an important point of superiority about the Veedee Vibrator—the point, indeed, that puts it in a class by itself—that too great stress cannot be laid upon it.
>
> "The heavy vibratory power required for loosening the lime and uric acid deposits in, say, a rheumaticy shoulder might do irreparable mischief if applied to the treatment of neuralgic pain, or to such delicate organs as the eye or the ear.
>
> "It is because the Veedee is the only hand-turned Vibrator embodying this mechanical adjustment that it must be conceded premier place amongst vibratory or pulsatory instruments."

This, however, we found, is not the only reason why the Veedee leads where others cannot follow. The second important fact recommending the Veedee is that, apparently, immediately it is put into the hands of any man or woman—or child, for that matter—it can be intelligently used. It requires no personal demonstration, and one does not need to take lessons in the method of its use. Every sufferer is supplied with exact directions for its use in his or her condition, drawn up by genuine qualified British medical men, so that the maximum possible benefit may be obtained. These instructions, and the simplicity of following them, make the Veedee essentially the Pulsator for self home use. The sufferer has simply to set the regulator as directed, follow the clear directions supplied with each machine, and the Veedee does the rest.

The secret of its power lies in the fact that by its penetrating vibratory massage it removes all congestion and stimulates all nerves, and so restores to the ailing part and sluggish organ the normal functional action, which is health.

That this essential suitability for self home use is a wonderful advantage cannot be denied, and we thought as we handled this beautifully-built Veedee how amazing it was that so small and delicate-looking an instrument could produce so mighty and beneficent a force as to instantly banish pain and relieve or cure the myriad of illnesses which mar the daily lives of so many people.

Pain flees before the Veedee's magic touch quicker than snow melts beneath the sun, while such complaints and ailments as rheumatism and gout, constipation, abscesses, tumours, lumbago, sciatica, boils, indigestion, liver and kidney troubles, lung affections, eye weakness, headaches, neuralgia, insomnia, hysteria, paralysis, general debility, certain forms of deafness, etc., are driven away by the gentle, continuous, vibratory force generated by the mere turning of a small handle with one's thumb and finger!

It is clear that there is no need for a medicine-chest where the Veedee Vibrator is, and the Veedee is so much handier, because, once you have it, it does not grow in the least less effective, no matter how frequently it is used. You cannot "run out" of it. Being non-electric it never needs re-charging, and it is as good for one person as another, and for more illnesses than a dozen prescriptions could be. Moreover, it cannot get out of order, and if ordinary care, such as one bestows upon a bicycle or a watch, is exercised, the Veedee will last an entire family a lifetime.

We suggested that "The recent boom of the idea of

vibration or pulsation treatment has had its effect in increasing the trade in Veedees."

"Well," replied the Veedee Manager, "it has, of course, caused us to sell a certain number more at home here in England. Whoever makes a push in connection with the idea of vibration can't help causing an increase in the sale of Veedees—that's the best of having the best—but our business has gone beyond a local on to a world-wide basis. The Veedee now sells in practically every country in the world, and in each it goes to discriminating and careful people of all classes, from royalty downwards, who are not affected by temporary advertising 'booms,' but who first find out which is the best thing in its line—which in Vibrators or Pulsators happens to be the Veedee—and then, of course, buy that. Any number of Veedees are purchased on the advice of medical men, and it is more than doubtful whether any other hand-worked Vibrator, except the Veedee, at present being offered in England is ever used or prescribed by a genuine British doctor."

The world-wide popularity and sale of the Veedee were proved to us when we saw its booklets and printed matter in over a dozen different foreign languages, covering practically the civilised world.

JOHN BULL finds that the Veedee is made mainly in England, but it is also made in foreign countries whose patent laws prevent its importation thereto, whilst it is exported from England to countries which have no such barriers.

The most convincing proof of all of the high esteem in which the Veedee is held was testimonials from a large number of eminent medical authorities produced for our inspection. Many hundreds have been supplied to British medical men—not given for advertising purposes, but sold, mind you. It is clear that the Veedee is the machine which is used and prescribed by the most eminent men in the medical profession.

Besides these, we were furnished with original testimonials from hosts of well-known people. The Veedee's list of distinguished owners and users does not consist of half-a-dozen well-known names, but is practically a list of the British aristocracy, of Society, Art, Literature, Politics, Law, the Stage, the Army and Navy, Trade, and every department of life.

Here is the wonderful thing about the Veedee: similar lists of its users exist in practically every country of the world—including, by the bye, America, where, although the Veedee has been known and used for years, it is stated to be the only Vibrator or Pulsator at present selling in England that is known and used there at all. Curious that, isn't it, when you come to think of it?

We remarked to the Veedee Manager: "It would certainly appear that the Veedee is a useful thing to be kept in every household, for use as required." He replied:

"Well, our machine is certainly an invaluable possession, either to an individual sufferer or to a family, but we do not press anybody to buy Veedees at all; we do not need to. All we say by way of advice to the public is, 'Before you part with your money for any Vibrator or Pulsator at all, find out which is the right one. Take all the 'free trials,' 'free advice,' and 'free treatment' you can get, but don't *buy* anything at all until you have first seen and tried a genuine Veedee. Then buy which you like, *but* see and try a Veedee first.' This we give every reader of JOHN BULL a chance of doing free of charge."

The following offer is so generous, and the advice given so sound, that JOHN BULL heartily endorses both, and says to our readers, "Do not take our word that the Veedee has fulfilled to our utmost satisfaction the claims made for it; but try it for yourselves." The Veedee Manager put his offer to our readers thus:—

"To celebrate JOHN BULL's investigation of the Veedee, and as a mark of appreciation of your kind endorsement, I am instructed by my Company to make the following

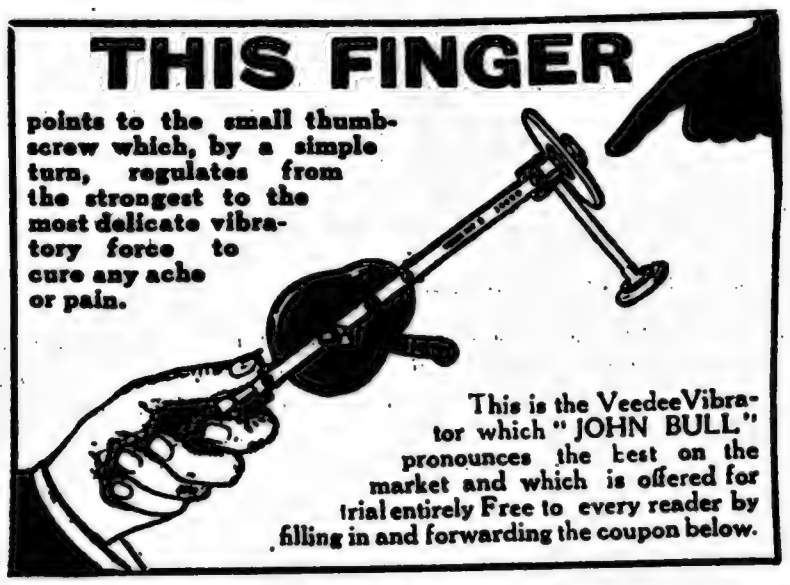
OFFER TO THE READERS OF "JOHN BULL."

"We will, for at least the next fourteen days, lend a Veedee for three days' home trial, and send with each so lent an exact course of instruction for its use, ENTIRELY FREE OF CHARGE, to every JOHN BULL reader who writes asking for one, and accompanies the request with a letter describing the ailment for which the Veedee is required. The loan of the machine does not entail the slightest obligation to purchase unless so desired. Persons desiring to purchase a Veedee right out should note that the amount to remit us is only 32s. 6d., since the Veedee is not only the best, but is also the lowest-priced efficient Vibrator or Pulsator on this market."

Every JOHN BULL reader will agree that a more straightforward offer could not be made. You can test the Veedee at home at the Veedee Company's expense, and we can give our readers no better advice than to secure one of the free-trial machines whilst the offer remains open, by cutting out and posting to-day the coupon below.

We sum up our investigation by saying to the Veedee Company that "After a careful investigation of the Vedee with any other instrument of a similar kind that we have seen—in lightness and elegance of appearance and finish, in mechanical construction and adaptability to end in comparative smoothness and silence in use (so important to nervous sufferers), in your ingenious method of producing the vibrations by means of your patent eccentric weight or fly-wheel, and above all in the infinite gradations of its strength—from the heaviest vibration down through all degrees, at will of the user or the requirements of the case—the Veedee undoubtedly bears the palm.

"Moreover, after a careful comparison of dates of patents and records of business done, we see quite clearly that the Veedee ante-dates by years any other hand-turned vibration or pulsation machine at present selling in this country. That the Veedee is the source and origin of the present growing vogue of vibration or pulsation treatment, and notwithstanding the march of progress and invention, the Veedee remains to-day *the best* available hand-worked means for the self or home application of this undoubtedly valuable means of treating pain and disease. Should we ever in the future ourselves need a Vibrator or Pulsator, you will get one more customer for your Veedee."


THIS FINGER
points to the small thumb-screw which, by a simple turn, regulates from the strongest to the most delicate vibratory force to cure any ache or pain.
This is the Veedee Vibrator which "JOHN BULL" pronounces the best on the market and which is offered for trial entirely Free to every reader by filling in and forwarding the coupon below.

READERS OF "JOHN BULL" ARE ADVISED TO FILL AND FORWARD THIS FORM.

THE VEEDEE CO., 96, SOUTHWARK STREET, LONDON, S.E.

Date.....

Please send me for Three Days' Free Home Trial a Veedee Vibrator, according to your offer in "JOHN BULL." It is understood that I am under no obligation to purchase the Vibrator, and in the event of deciding not to keep it I undertake to return it to you at the end of Three days.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

Write plainly, stating Title, Rev., Mr., Mrs. or Miss.

DR. COOK TELLS THE TRUTH.—XIII.

THE REAL STORY OF HIS NORTH POLE EXPEDITION.

TOLD BY HIMSELF.

(Exclusive for Great Britain to JOHN BULL.)

We commenced the publication of Dr. Cook's exciting narrative in our issue dated Dec. 31, and have, week by week, given his story of how he attained his ambition—the discovery of the Pole. This account of his almost superhuman struggles against the mighty forces of Nature we have printed in his own graphic language. His narrative does not appeal to the geographer alone; his earnest plea is made to mankind at large—not for the laurels to which the undisputed conqueror of the World of Ice is legitimately entitled—but for the verdict that, whether he achieved his life's object or no, he retains his right to the name of an honest man.

After giving Dr. Cook's stirring description of his ecstasy when, convinced by natural phenomena, he arrived at the firm belief that he had at length reached his goal; the reaction he experienced when retracing his steps; his account of the soul-destroying monotony of the Polar night, during which he hibernated with his Eskimos; the visions which his surroundings conjured up; his arrival, completely exhausted, at Annoatok and meeting with Mr. Harry Whitney; his reasons for leaving with Mr. Whitney his instruments, etc., when starting for home, and the mixed reception his claim received at Upernivik and Umanak; his cabling to the "New York Herald" the first short account of his experiences; the enthusiasm with which he was greeted at Copenhagen, Royalty joining in the ovation, our last issue described the receipt by him of a cable from Peary and his journey to and arrival at New York, to face the charges made against him.

From the day I reached New York, September 21st, 1909, until after I left the United States on November 24th, 1909, my life was a kaleidoscopic whirl.

Much criticism has been hurled at me because I started on a lecture campaign when I should have prepared my data and submitted proof. At that time I was in no position to anticipate or understand this criticism. Every explorer for fifty years had done the same thing, all had delivered lectures and written articles about their work after a first preliminary report.

There began at this time the publication of innumerable fake interviews and stories misrepresenting me. Then came the blow which almost stunned me—the news that Harry Whitney had not been allowed by Peary to bring my instruments and notes home with him.

After I had been on my lecture tour for a few weeks, I began to feel persecuted. On every side I sensed hostility; the sight of crowds filled me with a growing sort of terror. I did not realise at the time that I was becoming nervously and mentally unstrung.

THE DUNKLE-LOOSE EXPERIENCE.

At this time, as if again destined by fate, innocently I made my greatest error.

Shortly before I had started West, Dunkle was brought to me by Mr. Bradley on the pretext of talking life insurance.

After my return from the West, Dunkle seemed to be always around, and at every opportunity spoke to me. He gained a measure of confidence by criticising the press campaign waged against me.

Dunkle brought Loose out to the Gramatan Inn and introduced him to me, saying that he was an expert navigator.

Pretending a knowledge of the situation in Europe, Loose told me the Danes were becoming impatient. I replied that I was busy preparing my report.

"Something ought to be done in the meantime," he said. "Now I have connections with some of the Scandinavian papers, and I think some friendly articles in the meantime would allay this unrest."

Finally he brought me several articles. They seemed weak and irrelevant. Lonsdale read them, said there was not much in them, but that they might help. Loose mailed the articles—or said he did. Then, to my amazement, he made the audacious suggestion that I let him go over my material. I flatly refused.

He pointed out, what I myself had been thinking about, that all observations were subject to extreme inaccuracy. He suggested his working mine out backwards to verify them. As I regarded him as an experienced navigator, I told him to go ahead, using the figures published in my story in the New York *Herald*.

Late one night, returning from the city, I went to his room. Dunkle was there. Papers were strewn about.

"Well," said Loose, "I think we have this thing all fixed up."

Dunkle, smooth-tongued and friendly as ever, said, "Now, Doctor, I want to advise you to put your own observations aside. *Send these to Copenhagen!*"

I looked up amazed, incredulous. I felt stunned for the moment, and said little. I then took the trouble to look over all the papers carefully. There was a full set of faked observations. The examination took me an hour. During that time Dunkle and Loose were talking in a low tone. I did not hear what they said. I saw at once the game the rascals had been playing. The insinuation of their nefarious suggestion for the moment cleared my mind, and a dull anger filled me.

"Gentlemen," I said, "pack up every scrap of this paper in that dress-suit case. Take all your belongings and leave this hotel at once."

I stood there while they did so. Not a word was spoken. Sheepish and silent they shuffled from the room, ashamed and taken aback. Sick at heart at the thought that these men should have considered me unscrupulous enough to buy and use their faked figures, I went to my room. From that day—November 22nd—I have not received a letter or telegram from either.

Only months later, in South America, did I read with horrified amazement a summary of the account of this occurrence sold by Dunkle and Loose to the New York *Times*. Distorted and twisted as it was, I doubt if ever the *Times* would have used it had Dunkle and Loose not taken oath that these faked figures were sent to Copenhagen. They knew, as God knows, that every scrap of paper on which they wrote was packed in a suit-case as dirty as the intent of their sin-blotted paper.

WHY DID I LEAVE NEW YORK?

Why did I do the very thing which on the face of it friends and enemies now say was an admission of the worst possible charges and suspicions?

The simple fact is that I lost my head; I was mentally unbalanced.

At Copenhagen, because of the data buried in Greenland, I prepared to rest my case on a report of reduced observations with which my duties for the time were performed. Why should I remain longer in the agitated public gaze, only to be regarded as a freak among men who did not understand me? In due time, after a needed rest and recreation, I would get a proper perspective, and the public would come to a saner appreciation of the points in question.

Tickets for Italy were purchased for Mrs. Cook and myself. The plan was to take a brief trip and return.

On November 24th, Lonsdale and I quietly left Bronxville and came to New York. For several weeks I had been shadowed constantly by men whom I knew to be detectives.

I had no idea of going away, for we were to sail for Italy on the morrow. Now the idea came to me that I could go away without detection, that I could rest, that I should be undisturbed.

My mind in the meantime had evolved the desperate intention of frankly telling my story to the world. I had resolved unstintedly to state my case to the people of my country. They might not believe me—that I realized. If they did not, I knew it was a thing I could not help. But I wanted friends. I desired to go home. I wanted to take my wife and children home and let them openly bear an unsmirched name. This effort I owed to myself and to them. It would mean much suffering, it would take much courage. It might result in more slanders and greater reviling. But having done this, all that I could do, I should have at least the satisfaction of performing the only right, courageous thing.

(CONCLUSION.)

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The "SPORTSMAN" says:—
The enterprise is carried on upon credit principles only, of course, and it has been so many years before the public that 'that plant of slow growth, confidence,' must be pretty deeply rooted now."

The "MORNING ADVERTISER" says:—
"Not the least remarkable feature of this gigantic concern is the fact that it is carried on upon credit principles entirely, and in no circumstances is cash or deposit business entertained."

DANIEL M. GANT

(Member of Tattersall's)
and the

British Sporting Public

☛ **Original and Straightforward Methods** gained for me the title of England's Premier Turf Accountant, which title has been retained and Safeguarded by a deposit of £50,000 at my bankers to meet the requirements of this particular venture. My business has increased to such dimensions that I have acquired a long lease of new and more commodious premises at 41, New Bond Street, London, W., and there will be

New Departures

☛ ## I can now Cater for the Million

and accept instructions from **SMALL** amounts upwards on the terms that have made my name popular in every Town and City throughout the United Kingdom.

I Trust You.

Credit accounts only, daily or weekly. Cheques to clients in payment of winnings signed in an assumed name. Instructions are accepted for all meetings the programmes of which appear in "The Sportsman."

No Limit!

No Deductions. Full Starting Price Odds Paid on All Races.
Place Commissions even should the Favourite start Odds on.
Future Events. "The Sportsman's" Quotations guaranteed.
Inquiries treated Confidentially and Expeditiously. Monday or Daily Settlements.
INSTRUCTIONS MAY BE SENT BY POST.

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The John Bull League.

BRANCH REPORTS.

West Hartlepool and Middlesbrough.—Ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor will be at these important centres to-night (Thursday) and to-morrow night (Friday) at the respective Town Halls, and, from the reports which have reached us from the Local Secretaries, is assured of splendid audiences. Prior to his address at West Hartlepool, an excellent Concert will be given, whilst at Middlesbrough an Organ Recital has been arranged for. Those intending to be present should make a point, therefore, of arriving in good time.

Leicester.—This active Branch is preparing a great welcome to the President, at the Temperance Hall, on Friday, the 31st inst. It is a pity the accommodation is not larger, but it is the largest hall available, and we can only repeat the advice given above, namely, to go early.

Liverpool.—Encouraged by the success of the last Whist Drive, which was not only a most enjoyable social function, but resulted in the acquisition of many new members, the Branch is holding another on Friday, the 31st inst., at the Liverpool Assembly Rooms. Any members who have not obtained tickets from the Local Secretary will, if accommodation permits, be able to purchase them at the doors.

Manchester.—After the series of successful meetings in the Public Halls of Longsight, Cheetham Hill and Chorlton-cum-Hardy, it is proposed to hold a Grand Smoking Concert next month. The Local Secretary, Mr. F. Wardle, of 5, Woodland Road, Gorton, will be grateful for any voluntary offers of musical and vocal talent.

Sheffield.—The Committee have arranged for another Whist Drive to be held on Monday next, the 27th inst., at the Cambridge Hall (adjoining the Hippodrome) at 8 p.m. Eight valuable prizes will be competed for and are now on view at the premises of Messrs. Crane and Sons, Lady's Bridge, where tickets (price 1s. 6d., including light refreshments) may be obtained, or from the Local Secretaries at 53, Idsworth Road, Pitsmoor, and 73, Willoughby Street, Firth Park. Admission may also be obtained on payment at the Hall doors. Mr. Hy. Frederick and Mr. H. C. Lee have been elected members of the Sheffield Executive Committee.

Leeds.—Those who were unable to obtain admission to the Town Hall on the occasion of the recent visit of the President, should take the opportunity of hearing an address by ex-Lieut. Allan Sutor, on Army Administration at the Albert Hall, on Thursday next, March 30th. It is not proposed to issue any tickets, and admission will be free to all. A splendid Concert is being arranged for.

Plymouth.—We are now in a position to definitely announce that the President will address a meeting in the Guildhall on Friday, April 7th. His visit has been eagerly anticipated by the members, and it is safe to predict that there will be a record attendance. Full particulars later.

Bristol.—As announced in our last issue, it is intended to hold a series of meetings in each of the Parliamentary Wards, and a start will be made in the Bristol East Ward, when Mr. B. A. Brown will deliver an address in St. Luke's Mission Hall, Barton Hill, on Wednesday, April 5th, at 8 p.m. A first-class musical programme will also be given.

Birmingham.—The various committees of the branches in this district are now busily employed in organising their campaign in connection with the petition to the City Council on the question of extending the cheap fares for workmen to 9.0 a.m., instead of 8.0 a.m., as at present. Meetings have, or are, being arranged all over the area covered by the Birmingham centre, and the next week or two promises to be the busiest yet experienced. It is hoped to obtain at least 75,000 signatures, and it is quite possible that this number will be greatly exceeded, in view of the energy that is being displayed. A Smoking Concert has been arranged at the Acorn Hotel, Erdington, on Wednesday, March 29th, and another at Yates Street Lecture Hall, Aston Cross, on Thursday, March 30th. Both commence at 8.0 p.m. sharp, and the doors will open at 7.45 p.m. Admission free. There are so many star artistes who belong to this branch that members can always rely upon having a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Both the meetings are to be addressed by the Central Secretary, Mr. C. L. Kay, and copies of the petition can be obtained at these meetings, and also from the various Local Secretaries.

METROPOLITAN AREA.

Kennington.—This Branch holds its second Bohemian Concert on Saturday evening next at the Prince of Wales' Hotel, at 7.30 p.m. All members and friends are cordially invited to be present.

(*For Membership Coupon see page* ii. *of Cover.*)

WONDERFUL BOOT POLISH.

DOUBLES LIFE OF BOOTS.

LIBERAL SAMPLE FREE.

If you would double the life of your boots and shoes, send to-day for a large free supply tin of the wonderful Boot Polish made by the greatest Boot Polish Manufacturers in the world, DAY & MARTIN LTD.

The polish gives a Rich Brilliant Shine, preserves the leather, keeps boots and shoes waterproof, and is very economical in use. The least smear of polish and a quick rub with brush or pad brings out a fine rich polish. Test this without expense by sending to-day for large free supply. Insist upon DAY & MARTIN'S Boot Polish when visiting your tradesman. It is sold in tins at 3d., 4d., 6d. To secure your free supply post paid, send your name and address without delay to Room 23, DAY & MARTIN'S, Borough Road, London, S.E.

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A Beautiful £3 3s. "Erco" Gramophone for Every Home.
The Most Extraordinary Gramophone Offer Ever Made.

The **English Record Co., Ltd.,** 44 Bedford Row, London, W.C., are sole makers and proprietors of the famous "**John Bull" Records**—the Record of sterling quality and value—acknowledged by all to be unsurpassed for beauty and clearness of tone. In order to make these Records the best known and most widely used in the world, the Directors will place at the disposal of any "John Bull" reader, **Absolutely Free of Charge,** a Magnificent **£3 3s. "ERCO" GRAMOPHONE,** which will prove to be a **beautiful ornament** to your home and a source of endless delight to yourself and friends. All that is asked in return is that you purchase "**JOHN BULL" RECORDS** and recommend them to your friends.

Naturally such an extraordinary offer as this will be taken advantage of immediately by thousands of readers of "John Bull," and therefore all applications as per Coupon below will be dealt with strictly in the order in which they are received: To secure this magnificent instrument, fill up and post this Coupon to-day.

Description: The cabinet measures 12 in. square by 6 in. deep, and is made of sound oak, highly polished and ornamented. It is fitted with a tastefully decorated flower horn, 16 in. across the bell; a motor that can be wound up whilst running; a turntable about 9in. diameter, nickel-plated and polished; a sound-box of the latest design with an indiarubber ring to prevent jarring; and is guaranteed for two years.

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Please send me official application form for Free Gramophone, together with complete catalogue of "John Bull" Records.

Name .....

Address .....

J.B. 2. This Coupon will go in open envelope under ½d. stamp.

DR. MACAURA'S NEW PLAN

AN IMMEDIATE SUCCESS.

A Huge Scheme for Extending the "Pulsocon" Treatment to Every Sufferer—All Over the World.

Hundreds of Letters Pouring in Daily. Increased Secretarial Staff Necessary to Cope with the Correspondence.

Dr. Macaura is by no means an ordinary man; he must be ever advancing, ever progressing, ever thinking out some new way of bringing it home to the thousands of sufferers from rheumatism, arthritis, gout, sciatica, lumbago, paralysis, and many forms of deafness that his famous Pulsocon will relieve them of their pains—will, in fact, cure them, and restore them to health.

With startling rapidity he has evolved one plan after another for spreading the good news and enlarging the field for his good work amongst thousands of sufferers. First there was his

GREAT DEMONSTRATION AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL.

when over 20,000 people crammed the vast building to witness the public exhibition of his wonderful machine. The entire London Press was loud in its praise of the marvellous results of Dr. Macaura's Treatment upon the sufferers who crowded upon the platform.

Then, in quick succession, came the opening of an Institute in the West End of London, where thousands were treated free and had their crippled limbs straightened, their rheumatic pains removed, their paralysed arms and legs restored to use; and the deaf had their hearing brought back to them.

But the West End institute soon proved too small for the vast crowds that ever increased and flocked to hear and see what the Pulsocon would do for them.

The next move was to the present spacious building, Pembroke Hall, 133 to 135, Oxford Street, W., where the crowds are growing still greater, and already twelve new rooms have had to be added.

MR. STEAD'S SEARCHING TEST.

"You see there is no longer any shadow of doubt about the power of the Pulsocon to cure sufferers, positively and permanently," says Dr. Mauaura. That is why proole are now crowding the waiting-rooms at Pembroke Hall. They come here to get relief from their sufferings. At one time many came out of idle curiosity—or, at any rate, with doubts in their minds; now they come because they have no longer any doubt.

And why is this? Because my machine has been put to the severest, the most searching and most scrutinising tests—and it has invariably come out triumphant. Look at Mr. W. T. Stead's test. Here is a man, perhaps one of the best-known men to-day in England (late editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and now editor of the *Review of Reviews*), who says frankly, "I have doubts about what you claim for the Pulsocon and its curative powers. Will you let me select some cases I know of and bring them to you?" Certainly, I say to him, bring your patients and I will cure them of their troubles, and you of your doubts at the same time. Mr. Stead picks out eight of the very worst cases he can find—cases of rheumatism of years' standing—and they are given a treatment by the Pulsocon in full view of the public.

DR. MACAURA VINDICATED AND THE "PULSOCON" TRIUMPHANT.

And what is the result of this public test, with Mr. Stead looking on to see "fair play"? Why, that he is satisfied—more than satisfied—because his "selected eight" patients were treated before his eyes, and all were immediately relieved.

As I have already said, the claims for the Pulsocon are now firmly established beyond all shadow of doubt. I have proved hundreds of times that my invention will cure rheumatism, arthritis, gout, lumbago, sciatica, paralysis, neuritis, and many forms of deafness. Many thousands know this, and they are coming to me daily with their ailments, but I am not satisfied yet. I feel that I am still working in a limited field and that I ought to carry the good work the Pulsocon is doing out into a much larger sphere.

TREATING SUFFERERS BY POST.

"How did you come to make this new departure, Doctor?" asked an interviewer recently.

"Well, there was always one point in my campaign which didn't seem right to me, and that was how to treat successfully distant patients—patients who lived too far away to visit the Institute. I felt they were not getting the best results—results which I knew they could get—if they used the Pulsocon rightly.

"But did you not send out instruction books with your machine?"

"Yes, of course I did, but my instruction book, although a good one, did not go far enough. You see, instruction books must generalise—they cannot cover every individual case. Many people who had Pulsocons were only getting partial benefit—not the full benefit that they ought to get.

"I have used the word 'individual case,' and that's the keynote of the whole thing. I felt I must know the particulars of every individual case before I could prescribe the proper treatment. But how was this to be done? How could thousands of my patients who live miles away in the country—or even abroad—come to me, or I go to them? It was impossible as matters stood, yet I felt there must be some way out of the difficulty.

"Now there is one point I am very determined about, and that is this: I would a thousand times rather not supply a machine to a patient unless I felt certain that that machine was going to do good. So I turned this problem of the distant patient over in my mind, and at last I solved it, completely and satisfactorily."

"And what is the solution, Doctor?"

"Well, it is extremely simple, and can be told in a few words. First, I say to all sufferers, young or old, rich or poor, come and see me at the Institute if you can. One personal examination will convince me whether I can relieve you of your trouble, and a free treatment will prove to you whether the Pulsocon will do you any good. But if you can't come to me, don't get discouraged. Don't think, because I can't treat you personally, that you can't be benefited. My machine has done some of its very best work amongst supposed 'incurables.'

VISIT THE INSTITUTE

if you can, but if you can't, then write to me. I will send you free my 'Book of Health' with a Symptom Chart, which you can fill in and return to me.

"Now, the questions I ask of you on that Symptom Chart are just those which I should ask if I saw you personally—questions concerning your ailment, how long you have suffered, what caused the trouble—in fact, the questions which the doctor must put to his patient. So you see by my system of treatment by post I can give you just as good advice as if I had you sitting with me in my consulting room. I will send you simple and concise advice for a proper and systematic treatment of your own case that will preclude all possibility of failure—provided you follow out my advice."

THE DOCTOR'S NEW PLAN AN INSTANTANEOUS SUCCESS.

"And how is your new plan working, Doctor?"

"Well, look here," replied Dr. Maucaura. "Here are hundreds of letters pouring in daily from all over the country in response to my offer to treat patients by post. I think they speak for themselves. And here, again, are hundreds more letters from patients—grateful, sincere, heartfelt letters—telling of complete recovery to health, by those who have followed my prescribed treatment.

"Remember, it must be borne in mind that I do not mean to say that I will be as successful in treating patients at a distance as those who can personally visit Pembroke Hall; this is not to be expected. Still, I say that my success in the past, which has been great, is being completely outdone by my present system of dealing with distant sufferers.

SPECIALLY PRESCRIBED TREATMENT FREE TO FIRST 5,000 APPLICANTS.

"I have decided to allow to the first 5,000 distant sufferers from to-day who write for my 'Pulsocon,' a specially-prescribed free treatment. Of course, it will be impossible for me to continue to give these free prescribed treatments indefinitely.

"To meet the increased volume of correspondence, however, I have secured an additional number of secretaries, that there shall be as little delay as possible in communicating with each applicant."

FREE PRIVATE TESTS AT DR. MACAURA'S INSTITUTE.

Should you be suffering from any of the diseases Dr. Macaura treats—viz., Rheumatism, Arthritis, Gout, Lumbago, Sciatica, Paralysis, Deafness and Functional Troubles, you may call upon him and discuss your ailment, and receive a free consultation on your case.

You will receive a private test free of charge if your case is accepted, and this will prove to you at once how great is the healing power of the "Pulsocon." You will then be in a position to make arrangements for treatment, and get rid of your pains and suffering. Bear in mind that this personal test at Dr. Macaura's Institute, Pembroke Hall, is entirely free of cost now. It is given just to show you how quickly the Pulsocon brings. It is given just to show you how quickly the Pulsocon brings about results. There is no obligation whatever on your part to spend any money or make any arrangements unless you desire to do so.

Many find it difficult to realise that they are at liberty to walk in and out of such a well-appointed Institution as Dr. Macaura's without being obliged to pay something for attention; but, remember, the sale of one Pulsocon or the treatment of one patient is as but a drop in the ocean of the vast amount of treatment given and the extraordinarily large number of machines supplied daily.

The hours at the Institute are from 10 to 6; Saturdays from 10 to 2. Pembroke Hall is at 133 to 135, Oxford Street, London, W. (corner of Wardour Street).

A VERY USEFUL BOOK WRITTEN BY DR. MACAURA.

Dr. Macaura's book is written by himself, in language which cannot be misunderstood. It contains information and advice of the greatest value to each and every one, and it is free for the asking, simply enclosing two penny stamps for postage.

It tells all about the now famous instrument, and the various diseases and ailments it will cure, and at the same time explains in the most lucid and concise manner the action of the Pulsocon Treatment on the human system.

THE ARMY—FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT.

By Allan Sutor.

MR. HALDANE'S DUPLICITIES.

These constitute a fairly substantial record. Many of them have become almost classical. By the exercise of a little self-denial, I propose to produce only one or two. These, it may be as well to mention, are recognised and highly-prized in military circles. The most cherished instance is Mr. Haldane's statement that "instead of reducing the Regular Army, I have added 90,000 men to its strength." Another standard instance is that of two contradictory Returns which were furnished by the same War Office in March, 1907. One shows how an Army consisting of 156 battalions can produce a Reserve of 55,645 men. The other demonstrates how a smaller Army of smaller battalions and shorter service can produce a larger reserve consisting of 63,370 men. These returns are now famous. But the biggest imposture ever perpetrated is Mr. Haldane himself. If I could convince my readers of that, I should be very proud to have served them so well. Some men, however, are never exposed. Indeed, it is always the greatest crimes against Society that go unpunished. But somebody will have to pay the penalty of Mr. Haldane's speeches, his "efficiency" medals to Territorials and his "proficiency" pay to Regular soldiers. I hope it will not be this country!

Deficiency of Officers.

One of the many subjects which have provided Mr. Haldane with an opportunity to reform the Army at the rate of three speeches a day has been the deficiency of officers. This, according to our Napoleon, is a serious problem. To put it right involves a considerable expenditure of public speeches. The result of his efforts all these years on Mr. Haldane has been to convince him that no human being really wants to be an officer in our Army, and that even soldiers are difficult to enlist. This is a very satisfactory conclusion so far as he himself is concerned. And long may he live to try to deceive and delude the people that it is true. The picture which the War Minister draws of himself wandering about in the wilderness in search of officers is one well calculated to enlist the sympathy of every really genuine hypocrite and humbug. But Mr. Haldane has been able to do something after all. He has succeeded in making wealth the one test of eligibility to be an officer, and has at last removed even the semblance of an educational test for officers. The latest regulation on this subject throws the commissioned ranks open to "efficients" in the officers' training corps. The standard of efficiency is that of a Territorial recruit. The only difference is that the officer candidate must be able to obtain a recommendation from the head-master of a public school. It would be much better for the Army if public school life constituted a bar to the commissioned ranks. You might not get "gentlemen;" but, on the other hand, you would stand some chance of getting one or two *men*. Boys are going to the public schools nowadays for the same reason that they afterwards come into the Army—viz., to try and buy with their money some of that social glamour and prestige which was built up by men—not by dollars.

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'IT'S ALL IN THE LATHER.'

Easy Shaving demands a soap yielding a free, thick, lasting lather; the kind you get for certain when you use 'Erasmic.'

In Nickel Case - 10d.

Trial Sample 2d. Stamps. Money refunded if not satisfied. What could be fairer? The ERASMIC CO., Ltd. (Dept. K), Warrington.

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SIMPLICITY SPELLS SUCCESS.

This is acknowledged by all, and in particular by Business Houses who desire, above all, that their Business Methods should run smoothly. An important factor as the use of the

"VERONIQUE" Loose Leaf Ledger.

The simple but effective Ledger. No complications of any kind whatsoever, no slotted leaves to worry about, and remember the "Veronique" opens absolutely flat. These are just a few points of simplicity; but if you are interested in learning more, write for booklet o EDGAR and CO., Ltd. (Dep. "J.B."), 34 and 34a, Moorfields, London, E.C.

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London E.C. March 25th. 1911

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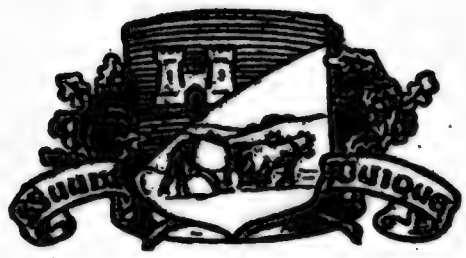
"Let everyone  *have his own."*

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and backs it by

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THIS GENUINE GIFT IS ONLY FOR THOSE WHOSE SOUND SENSE, ENTERPRISE, AND THRIFT INDUCE THEM TO BUY AT "ELTHORNE HEIGHTS" **NOW.**

Purchasers have their investment of £5 doubled by "John Bull's" £5 gift.

The terms are £5 down and £1 per month only. This buys the actual Freehold, and gives immediate possession.

"IT IS SO" because "JOHN BULL" himself SAYS SO.

Conferences may fail, Banks have failed, but

"Elthorne Heights"

Freehold can never fail. Its value is ever-increasing.

FREEHOLD LAND IS THE ONLY REAL FORM OF SECURITY.

The expression that the land is the source of all wealth is almost trite. Yet it will bear repetition. There are still many in England who do not appreciate the value of Freehold. People are tempted to gamble by "booms" and the allurements of "share" deals. So called "banks" offering large rates of interest likewise claim their share of victims. Cotton Kings and Wheat Kings come and go. Rubber and oil shares make some people rich and others poor, but there is *one* form of security which is a veritable rock of safety, and that is FREEHOLD LAND.

"JOHN BULL" encourages and supports his readers to become FREEHOLD INVESTORS at

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"ELTHORNE HEIGHTS" is the extension of London's valuable West End. 7½ miles from Marble Arch. Adjoining prosperous Ealing. Call or send for free handsome Illustrated Booklet (J), and fullest particulars:—

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CUT OUT THE CHEQUE-COUPON OPPOSITE.

BULL'S EYES.

Notes of Interrogation:—
Isn't "After you" the attitude on a limitation of armaments?
Isn't street trading already "kerbed"?
Did Sir Ian Hamilton do wrong to write?
Will Bonar Law become "Bootles' Baby"?
Hasn't the *Daily Mail* been badly "pinked"?
Is the Anti-Socialist Union "raising any dust"?
Isn't the oldest Member of Parliament still Young?
Doesn't the British Empire Trade Mark Association sound "impressive"?
Doesn't China require delicate handling?
Isn't Dr. Owen tired of mud-slinging?
Isn't the Government "stock" rather low just now?

"There are so few serious women," says Lady Constance Lytton. For which we are duly thankful.

"Fortune in a Cushion," reads a heading. The owner must always have had money at his back.

A large number of would-be Army recruits are rejected for bad teeth. The authorities are looking down in the mouth in consequence.

"Drowned by Weight of Money," reads a headline. Money usually keeps one's head above water.

"It is quite impossible to help some people," says the Rev. T. W. Jamieson. Yes, they would rather help themselves.

"The Truth about the Suffragists" is the title of an article in a contemporary. This is going too far.

The man who committed suicide by jumping down a coal-pit evidently had a mania for getting to the bottom of things.

A game of chess lasting thirty-seven hours has been played at Vienna. Yet there are misguided people who prefer football.

A lady at Fareham ordered a Harem,
When she found that the shops didn't stock it.
But she promptly retired when the tailor inquired
If she wanted the usual hip-pocket?

L.C.C. tramcars have now been fitted with coin testers. It's your (good) money they want.

"The 'uses of adversity' have been greatly over-praised," says Mr. G. W. E. Russell. True, few people have any use for it.

The discovery of a piece of concrete in the Wye has delighted Dr. Owen. No wonder, the search has been all "abstract" so far.

Cosy won a race at Kempton Park, but it was not a warm favourite.

A public-house in Tottenham Court Road is to be used for a Bible class on Sunday afternoons. That ought to fetch 'em.

A tall copy of Walton's "Compeat Angler" has been sold for £700. A tall price.

"All the world loves a tale," says Mr. A. Spurgeon. Except the man to whom it is "told."

"Standard Bread" was a recent topic at St. Mary-at-Hill. Did it go down all right?

The headline "American Spokes in British Wheels" does not, marvellous to say, refer to the Reciprocity Scheme.

An actress wearing a trouser skirt has been hooted off the stage at Belgrade. We presume the audience couldn't see much in it.

"A telegram is a miracle," says Mr. Albert Sheriff. A promptly-delivered one certainly is.

The Mayor of Wimbledon says gardening is a great education. We agree that it is cultivating.

"Should falling in love be compulsory?" asks a morning paper. But isn't it?

Lady Stout, who says, "If men are to be great, their mothers must be free," apparently has no faith in corsets.

Speaking of play-writing, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones says, "God sends the plots." Some folk blame the Deity for everything.

"Camorra in a Cage," we read. Time it was shut up.

The burglars who broke into the Cobham village club, and had a bath before leaving, no doubt wished to show a clean pair of heels.

Miss Cecilia Loftus gives a "costume" imitation of Miss Maud Allan. We presume it is a take-off?

"It is possible to be too much of a family man," says the Bishop of London. Triplets, for instance.

"The politician of to-day likes to be thought practical," says Sir Robert Aske. The politician of to-morrow will have to *be* practical.

A morning paper tells old soldiers how to help themselves. But the real "old soldier" knows.

"Dates are a nuisance," says Louis N. Parker. Some ladies will agree when the census paper arrives.

"John Bull" Dispels All Danger of Doubt.

Testimonials of doubtful origin and still more doubtful authenticity are sources of mistakes and troubles. These letters are from doctors and nurses who have experienced or personally seen the marvellous restorative effects of Hall's Wine. "John Bull" has examined these and hundreds of similar letters, and guarantees them to be genuine and unsolicited.

No. 960.
"Suffering from a very bad breakdown, through overwork, I have taken Hall's Wine, and am pleased to be able to say it has done me the greatest good. There is no doubt as to its Marvellous Restorative properties."

No. 961.
"It is a wonderful Restorative."

No. 811.
"After a recent illness I had a long spell of Sleeplessness, and I tried Hall's Wine, taking it as directed in hot water at bed-time, with most remarkable results. I am delighted with it, and glad to know of it for future recommendation."

No. 864.
"After a severe attack of Depression and Weakness following hard work, I have benefited very much by the use of Hall's Wine, and I have also received immediate relief from Neuralgia I consider Hall's Wine is excellent."

No. 857.
"In cases of Neuralgia I know of nothing that acts so rapidly as Hall's Wine, and since taking it I have improved in every way."

No. 856.
"For Neuralgia, Colds, Weakness following Influenza, Hall's Wine can be safely recommended. In my own case, its action has been simply marvellous."

No. 836.
"I was suffering from a relaxed throat and neuralgia and took Hall's Wine with most excellent results. I have since recommended it to a number of friends, who have had the same experience as mine."

No. 840.
"I think very highly of Hall's Wine in cases of Debility, Anæmia and Weakness following illness. The benefits are so marked and rapid, and I can strongly recommend it in cases of exhaustion following after illness."

No. 845.
"I have taken Hall's Wine myself for some time past, and have no hesitation in saying it is a most Marvellous Pick-me-up. In fact, I have never had anything that has restored me so quickly. When on night duty, one gets awfully run down and your Wine puts new life into me."

No. 829.
"I had a practical experience of the value of Hall's Wine in my own case. A fortnight ago I had a most serious cold. I took a dose of Hall's Wine as prescribed, in hot water, on going to bed. The next morning I was much better though weak. I took the remainder of the bottle during the next few days, and I am now quite right again. I shall always resort to it in a similar case."

No. 825.
"I am attending a patient who has been prescribed Hall's Wine after a serious illness, and her recovery is simply marvellous. I took three bottles myself, after influenza, and it did me more good than anything else I had ever tried."

No. 762.
"I consider Hall's Wine to be the best Restorative on the market, and most useful in cases of insomnia."

For 25 years the medical profession has recommended Hall's Wine. For anæmia, wasting disease, neuralgia, debility, sleeplessness and depression it is invaluable. As a protection against coughs, colds, chills, influenza and "low health" diseases, Hall's Wine deserves a place in every home.

Photo. [*Warwick Brookes.*

This is a photograph showing the beautiful physical development of MR. EUGEN SANDOW, who has done more than any other man to encourage others to emulate his example in securing perfect Health and Strength.

GRAND NEW COMPETITION.

£100 IN CASH PRIZES

In which Young, Middle-aged, and Old have an Equal Chance.

A Pair of Sandow's Spring-grip Dumb-bells to be sent for FREE Trial and Carriage Paid at once, to every reader of "John Bull" who desires to enter this simple Competition.

The Sandow Spring-grip Dumb-bells, which will be sent immediately to every reader in Great Britain, may be used freely for seven days, and there is no obligation at all to purchase, nor is there any charge whatever.

THIS AMAZING OFFER

gives every reader of "John Bull" the opportunity to see for themselves without a penny of cost how delightful and valuable this great new Competition for £100 in cash prizes really is. At the same time, every reader will learn, entirely at our expense, how easy it is, by means of this wonderful scientific invention of Mr. Eugen Sandow, the greatest health expert in the world, to secure perfect health, and prevent such ailments as **Indigestion, Constipation, Liver Complaint, Insomnia,** etc., and also to improve his or her physique: to increase the strength of any or all of the limbs and organs of the body: to render the carriage graceful and distinguished, and acquire that appearance and bearing which command success in society, in business—in fact, in all the affairs of life.

Any reader can enter. The conditions are such that every BOY, YOUTH, YOUNG MAN, MIDDLE-AGED MAN or WOMAN, and even OLD MEN and WOMEN will have equal chances of winning.

It is the natural desire of every intelligent BOY, YOUTH, YOUNG MAN and YOUNG WOMAN to improve their physique and enhance their appearance, health, and general well-being. This amazing offer of Sandow's Spring-grip Dumb-bells and generous Prize Competition provide a wonderful opportunity and inducement to do all these things.

The MIDDLE-AGED MAN and WOMAN must keep healthy, strong, and vigorous, and must prevent the encroachment of the hundred-and-one ailments of middle life. This offer and Competition will introduce to them the most perfect form of health exercise with a monetary reward thrown in. The ELDERLY MAN and WOMAN must set back the clock if they are to enjoy the evening of life. Elderly readers may not only do this by a few minutes a day with Sandow's Spring-grip Dumb-bells, but may also secure the £100 in cash, which would come in so useful.

With every pair will be sent a Booklet of Exercises, showing in detail the way to perform each of the original exercises of the Sandow System, also a Chart showing how many times each exercise should be done daily by the average man or youth, together with hints on how, when, or where to exercise, how to take a cold bath, and other useful information. The Chart contains One Month's Initiatory Course of Exercises, suitable for the average man, woman, or youth, and it has been carefully prepared by Mr. Sandow for presentation and use with every pair of the Grip Dumb-bells.

To secure the Dumb-bells on absolutely Free Trial and Full Details of the

£100 CASH PRIZES.

Send no money. Simply fill in and forward the form.

FREE TRIAL and £100 Prize Coupon for Readers.

To SANDOW'S GRIP DUMB-BELL CO.,
Room 37, Sandow Hall, Bury St., London, W.C. Date.....1911

Gentlemen,—Please send by return, for free Trial, one pair* of your Gentlemen's Spring-grip Dumb-bells and full particulars of the £100 Free Competition, at ..... Suitable for age

Youth's..... 12/6 18 and upwards.
Ladies'..... 10/6 14 to 18.
10/6 16 upwards.

It is understood that I may either return the Dumb-bells at the end of seven days without any obligation, or if I decide to keep same I will forward a postal order for 2s. 6d. as the first payment, and the balance in monthly payments of 2s. 6d. until payment is completed.

SIGNED .....

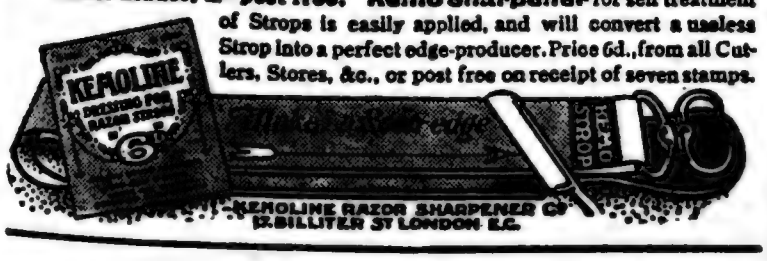
ADDRESS .....

"John Bull," 25.3.11. *Please cross out sizes not required.

"KEMO" Razor Sharpener

For all Kinds of Razor Blades. The effect of this unique preparation upon a Razor after but a few strokes is extraordinary. No sharpener in the world will give your Razor the perfected edge which results from a KEMO Strop.

KEMO Strops. Price 2/9 and 4/3. Kemo Strop for Safety Razor Blades, 2/- post free. Kemo Sharpener for self treatment of Strops is easily applied, and will convert a useless Strop into a perfect edge-producer. Price 6d., from all Cutlers, Stores, &c., or post free on receipt of seven stamps.



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12 BILLITER ST LONDON E.C.

FARROW'S BANK LTD.

(Incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies' Acts).

THE PEOPLE'S BANK.

Authorised Share Capital - £500,000

BANKING BY POST.

Write or Call for Illustrated Booklet and Balance Sheet.

HEAD OFFICE—

1, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOM.

Constipation Vanishes For Ever

Prompt Relief—Permanent Cure. CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS never fail. Purely vegetable—act surely but gently on the liver. Stop after-dinner distress—cure indigestion—improve the complexion—brighten the eyes.

Small Pill, Small Dose, Small Price.
GENUINE must bear Signature.

Brent Good

NO MORE BALD HEADS.

NEW DISCOVERY BRINGS QUICK HAIR GROWTH.

After Hair Specialists, Bay Rum, Hair Oils, Tonics, and other methods had failed, I grew a beautiful head of new hair by a simple home treatment of my own discovery which is now causing a big stir among hair specialists. It is acknowledged to be the only treatment in the world that will actually grow new hair, remove dandruff permanently, and restore the old hair to its natural colour and beauty. Many of my friends look 20 years younger since trying my treatment. I will send further particulars to anyone interested in my discovery absolutely free.

30 days ago.

Now.

ADDRESS—

D. J. LITTLE (Dept. 290. G. BOUVERIE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—*Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?*

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of enquiries received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and only those of general interest will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.

AUTHORS and artists submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work when stamped, addressed envelopes are sent for the purpose. All matter submitted must be original unless otherwise stated. The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).

The Editor cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.

Correspondents are requested not to send original certificates, testimonials, etc., as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE is increasing steadily. In future, we will disregard any letter which is not duly authenticated with name and address, which may be given in strict confidence.

"Stirling."—We certainly won't publish in our paper that a certain *Flushing football accountant* does not pay over winnings—at any rate, whilst you remain anonymous.

"Anxious One" (Larkhill).—After yours, no *Chinese pork* for us, thank you. We cannot even agree that all this East Ham should be consumed in West Ham.

"Bill Bailey."—*Bank Leopolds tein* (Sofia) is not to be trusted in the matter of the *Bulgarian* State Lottery. Won't you come home for your speculations?

"Bullite" (Walsall) says that, when he went to *prison* in the second division, he did *not* "live like a fighting-cock." Hard lines, old cock!

H. A. T. (Burton-on-Trent).—We believe *Hapgood's* do their best.

W. P. (Peckham) says a man had an accident, and was taken to the *Royal Free Hospital* (Gray's Inn Road), at 7.20 a.m. He had to wait in agony till 9.10 a.m. because no doctor was up. Is there then no night service in hospitals?

A. B. (Hammersmith) complains of *Siegenbergs*, a hire-purchase firm (272-4, Pentonville Road). He ordered goods priced at £12, and found they were worth only about £6. When the balance due was reduced to 8s. 3d., they wrote a letter threatening to seize everything unless payment was made by the following Tuesday. When his wife called with the money they said it was too late, and the goods would be seized. She produced their letter, but "three bullies snatched it out of her hand and tore it up." However, she contrived to secure the fragments, and has sent them to us. So all's well that ends well. Sounds a little improbable.

"Carmelite" wants to know if *money competitions* are run by newspapers on honest and straightforward lines? No doubt most are, but they usually only lead to bickerings and disappointments.

"Rebrab" informs us that the *National Telephone Co.* has been discharging operatives at Dalston on a charge of communicating information to the newspapers. Almost as if it were the War Office!

E. B. (Edinburgh) sends particulars of an *advertisement for a companion*, inserted by J. M. Hunter (Relief Street, Dysart), who requires his railway fare paid, so that he may visit the applicant!

F. C. B. (Sheffield).—Glad to see the "Junior Conservatives" of your city waking up to the necessity for *Business methods* in politics.

W. F. S. (Sherborne).—Glad to see you are shaking off *Party* in Dorset.

C. S. S. (North Kensington) inquires about *The Citizens' Union* (2 and 3, Honey Lane, E.C.), which asks for shillings for a propaganda "to reduce the heavy burden of imperial and local taxation." Shillings seem either too little or too much.

A. G. (Bedford Park) complains of *Seymour and Graham* (219, Oxford Street), who advertise in "The Church Times," undertaking to obtain paying children to be taken care of, and extort 5s. down.

"Molar" (London, S.W.) inquires about *The Dental Aid Society*, 213, Shaftesbury Avenue. He should see our articles exposing this swindle of the man Kennedy.

C. A. S. (East Dulwich) sends us some lottery tickets issued by the *Christian Brothers' Bazaar and Carnival*, Wexford. Gambling seems to be almost a ritual in Ireland.

L. R. G. (Bognor) thinks people *suspected of murder* ought to be handcuffed immediately after arrest. It certainly sounds a useful precaution.

"Phil" (W. Ealing) inquires about the *Military and Naval Tournament Co.* (Central House Rooms, Aldgate). They advertise that they have a capital of £30,000, and that they want 1,000 men to take part in displays throughout the country. But applicants are invited to pay a preliminary fee of £1 for equipment.

"A Constant Reader" (Co. Cork) complains of the *cruelty to birds* for the provision of feathers for ladies' hats, and says that some birds are absolutely plucked by farmers and cottagers. So are some inconstant readers.

"Competition" (Earl's Court) thinks it incredible that some 40,000 solutions can be carefully considered in a few days by *prize-giving editors*. It does sound quick work.

L. A. G. (Clapton).—We are well aware that *landlords* run risks from bad tenants, but we are scarcely prepared to advocate more stringent laws at present. You must be more vigilant about references.

Mrs. E. J. P. (New Cross).—You forgot to enclose the sixpence you wanted us to give *Jim*, but we have handed on your love. Now he wants to know how to turn it into cash?

E. L. (Weybridge) says the Post Office repudiates all liability in the case of *stolen postal orders* even though the name of payee be inserted. The alternative plan would be vexatious demands for proofs of identity.

C. S. (Longsight).—We agree that it is cool cheek to offer 21s. a week wage for market stall work and demand a *deposit of* £10. But is anyone likely to jump at the offer?

(*Continued on page* 494.)

A Certificated Nurse

Maternity Weakness, Nervous Collapse.

In *all* conditions of motherhood, be it noted, both *before* and *after* maternity, the vitalising and energising qualities of Phosferine are vouched for by mothers of all classes, by doctors and nurses who *pledge their word* for the prompt and thorough benefit derived from the tonic. At times when *every moment was of value*, says Nurse Arber, certificated midwife, Phosferine proved "a most wonderful strengthening and restorative tonic." In her important professional duties, Nurse Arber cannot do without the assistance of Phosferine, which prevents the lingering weakness and anxieties of motherhood, ensures a speedy recovery of strength and builds up vigour and force for the future.

Always Remedied.

Nurse Arber, C.M.B., 58, Shearer Road, Kingston, Portsmouth, writes:—"I cannot speak highly enough of Phosferine, its value to myself and patients is beyond even the term excellent. As a certificated nurse and midwife, one has to be resourceful at all times, and fully able to cope with any emergency; this responsibility, added to long watching and attendant anxieties, proved a great strain upon my nervous system and health, and began seriously to tell upon me. I found Phosferine a most wonderful strengthening and restorative tonic, after a week's course I felt quite restored, the nervous breakdown was entirely averted, and I felt stronger, brighter, and better able than ever to take up my arduous duties. Phosferine gives *most gratifying results* in maternity cases and it goes far to remove the anxiety which the re-building of the patient's strength generally engenders. In one instance I gave some Phosferine to a friend who had not been well since the birth of her last child, which is now 7 years old, she was suffering from weakness and depression, after taking the remedy for a few days, she informed me that she had not been so well since her accouchement."—December 7, 1910.

PHOSFERINE

THE GREATEST OF ALL TONICS.

A PROVEN REMEDY FOR

Neuralgia	Premature Decay	Anæmia
Rheumatism	Maternity Weakness	Malaria
Brain-fag	Nervous Headaches	Sleeplessness
Indigestion	Sciatica	Nervousness

and all disorders consequent upon a reduced state of the nervous system.

THE ROYAL TONIC.

Phosferine has been supplied by Royal Commands

To the Royal Family	H.M. the King of Greece
H.I.M. the Empress of Russia	H.M. the King of Spain
H.M. the Queen of Roumania	The Imperial Family of Chile

And the Principal Royalty throughout the World.

The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size

Rudge-Whitworth
Britain's Best Bicycle

THE CYCLIST'S ENCYCLOPÆDIA
The New Rudge-Whitworth Art Catalogue for
1911
illustrates and fully describes the 1911 Models of Rudge-Whitworth Bicycles and the Rudge Whitworth Motor Bicycles.

Write at once, and copy will be sent by return of post.

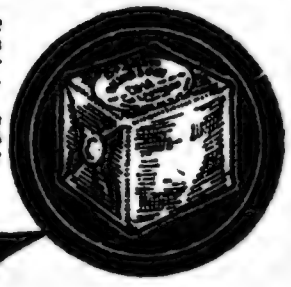
Rudge-Whitworth, Ltd. (Dept. 379), Coventry.
LONDON DEPOTS:—
230 Tottenham Court Road, W.
23 Holborn Viaduct, E.C.

TO H.M. THE KING
"Black & White" Whisky
Jas. Buchanan & Co., Ltd., Glasgow & London.

Dr. SCOTT'S PILLS
FOR BILIOUS & LIVER COMPLAINTS

If You Neglect Your Liver

every part of your system must suffer because your blood is certain to become charged with impurities. Indigest on, depression, lack of energy, dizziness, sickness, headaches, etc., are all "Liver signs. They can be cured only by restoring life and vigour to the liver. Dr. SCOTT'S PILLS do this quicker than any other remedy. A single dose will prove.
Sold in green packages by all Chemists, Prices, 1/1½ & 2/9.



Keep your Boys at Home.

George Gray's highest breaks, including the World's record break, have been made on RILEY'S Standard Tables.

The RILEY'S Miniature Table is built in exact proportion to the full size, and the game requires equal skill to play. Whatever size your room there is a RILEY'S Table to fit. RILEY'S Billiard Tables to place on your own dining table cost from £3 7s. 6d. upwards. The 6ft. 4in. size, £6 5s., is suitable for most rooms. RILEY'S Combined Billiard and Dining Tables are easily converted, and most convenient from £13 10s. Cash or Easy Payments. These prices include all accessories. Carriage paid to nearest railway station. *FREE* on receipt of postcard full detailed Illustrated Catalogue of Billiard and Dining Tables.

E. J. RILEY, Ltd., Crown Billiard Works, Accrington.
London Showrooms: 147, Aldersgate Street, E.C.

New Life for Invalids, Renewed Strength for the Weak, Greater Vigour for the Brain-worker, a Wealth of Health for Everyone.

To *instantly* invigorate—to permanently strengthen—to *safeguard* you against illness and disease—to make you healthier and happier—and to equip you with an abundance of *reserve strength—that* is the mission of "Wincarnis." As you take your wineglassful of

WINCARNIS

daily you will *feel* yourself getting stronger, and you will experience a delicious increase of vigour, vitality, and *reserve strength* as the rich, revitalised blood goes dancing through your veins, making your whole body tingle and glow with *new life*.

Test Wincarnis at our Expense.

Send the Coupon below, and by return of post you will receive a liberal trial bottle of "Wincarnis."

FREE TRIAL COUPON

COLEMAN & CO., LTD.
W 20, Wincarnis Works, Norwich.
Please send me a Free Bottle of "Wincarnis." I enclose three penny stamps to pay carriage.
NAME .....
ADDRESS .....
"JOHN BULL," March 25 1911.

Is your Pipe ALL you could wish?

Doesn't it sometimes burn your tongue? Doesn't it sometimes fill your mouth with ill-tasting moisture. The

"MASTA" PIPE

cannot burn your tongue, *cannot* fill your mouth or the pipe-bowl with moisture or nicotine. The "Masta" patent prevents all that. Everybody can enjoy a "Masta" even if they cannot smoke an ordinary pipe.

Made of best selected briar.

Note the special construction.

Section of Straight Pattern.

No parts to get out of order. Cleaned easily and instantly.
Obtainable of all leading tobacconists. Price 2/6, 4/-, 5/6, 8/-, &c. Cheaper quality, 1/-. Write to-day for free booklet, "Points on Pipes." Full of useful hints.

MASTA PIPE CO. (Dept. C) 153 FLEET ST., LONDON, E.C.

JUNON

Hair Tonic

Restores gloss and brilliancy—stops hair falling—nourishes and strengthens the roots—removes dandruff—positively makes the hair grow—is a beneficial and pleasant dressing for daily use.

post 1/- & 2/6 free
JUNON Ltd.

Hair Stain

This is the only permanent and really satisfactory one-solution hair stain—absolutely harmless—perfectly natural tints—easily applied in one operation—defies detection—does not stain the skin.

post 1/- & 2/9 free
57 MARSHAM STREET WESTMINSTER, S.W.

J. B. & Co.

"CADET" (Eastbourne) enquires about the *Australian Cadets' Associations*, whether it is respectable and straightforward.

B. W. (Walsall) complains that *moneylenders* can have postal addresses in remote parts of England and sue victims in County Courts, where the poor wretches cannot afford to appear.

"NUNQUAM."—We still maintain that *Bournemouth* is Nonconformist-ridden, but we will substitute Protestant-ridden or Killjoy-ridden, if you prefer.

N. M. (Melksham) complains of what he terms the "*blasphemy*" of his local Member in permitting a procession "headed by an enormous banner, bearing his photograph and the inscription 'I was a stranger and ye took me in.'" We only hope the honourable Member will not return the compliment.

C. R. (Eastbourne) enquires whether subscriptions to Mr. Fegan's "*Red Lamp*" *Shelter for Homeless Lads* are mostly swallowed up in expenses. Why not ask Mr. Fegan for a balance-sheet?

"ONE FROM THE SEA" (Gosport) writes: "I went to *Cornwall* a stranger, poor and ill, I found the Cornish people the best that I had ever met. The men are mostly steady, kind husbands, and the women thrifty and good-tempered and very clean. I never wish to meet better people. The children are brought up very well, and Cornish girls make good daughters and good wives." But we knew all that.

W. G. (Chingford) says the Walthamstow authorities have been closing the *cinematograph theatres on Sundays* with the intention of driving the local folk into churches and chapels. More likely to drive them into another neighbourhood—or the pubs.

J. K. S. (Huddersfield) says he knows dozens of people personally who have paid from £1 up to £10 to the *Leeds Hygienic Teeth Institute* and cannot get their teeth.

"REPRESENTATIVE" (Lancaster) says that a young man was engaged by *I. A. Hardy and Co.*, trading as the United Kingdom General Accountancy Office, at Chancery Lane, but when 13s. was due to him, they forwarded a letter stating that the amount would be sent in a few weeks. We suggest that a County Court summons should be issued against Hardy. It is a pity that we were not consulted before the job was entered upon, as we have many times warned persons against having transactions with the "Accountancy Office," the amounts which it collects being mostly retained by Hardy for "commission" and expenses.

"PROVINCIAL" (Thrapston) says that *Craig, Craig and Co.*, the advertising tricksters, are on the warpath again, dunning maidservants for instalments for goods, which will only be delivered after all instalments are paid. We note that their telegraphic address is "Catchword, London." How very appropriate!

C. S. F. (Vauxhall) complains of the *London and Provincial Orchestral Co.* (Crosby House, 36, Great St. Helens, E.C.). He says they advertise for instrumentalists for tea-room orchestras, but are really only concerned with snatching guineas.

R. W. H. (Stratford) wants us to bring in a Bill to protect people from *fee-snatching usurers*, and complains specially of the often-exposed Commercial Advance Co., 7, Maddox Street, who in this case tried to extort 7s. 6d. We have our eye on this firm.

A. T. B. (Newport, Mon.) writes, in reference to our recent paragraph apropos of *Claude Spratt*, Trade Artist and Photographer, that between the posting of his previous letter and its publication he received the enlargement. We are sorry that his postcard advising us of this appears to have gone astray. However, all's well that ends well, and any imputation upon Mr. Spratt is accordingly withdrawn.

MR. GEORGE PRICE (Commission Agent, Brighton) naturally wishes to be entirely disassociated from the Football defaulter, *George Price, of Flushing*—though, as he is a member of the Beaufort and Victoria Clubs the National Sporting League and Turf Guardian Society, his straightforwardness is beyond question.

"A DAUGHTER OF JOHN BULL" (Brighton).—We do not agree with your indignation over the action of the lady who prevented her dog from "talking" to a *two-year-old child* in a perambulator. The dog might have bitten the child or the child might have given the dog croup.

W. G. S. (Krugersdorp) says the *Salvation Army in South Africa* is representing itself as a trade union, but does it pay trade union rates of wages? We are also informed that "these sweaters think of starting a printing office in Johannesburg." Dr. Jameson will have to organise another raid.

C. K. (Plaistow) says that the *Compensation Act* is "doing more harm and causing more distress and starvation than ever did Napoleon. Millions of innocent women and children are starving through this artful Act." How is that?

G. F. N. (Tunbridge Wells).—We agree that people who send out *alarming texts* from the Bible ought to be severely discouraged.

An anonymous correspondent in Leeds writes: "Are we going to let our children herd with *Rog and Theives?*" We don't know the firm.

A. C. (Grimsby) wants to express his profound disgust for the manner in which we allow our pen to betray the workings of *our unenlightened mind*. He says he is "a working man blest by the abiding presence of the Spirit of Christ to detect the utterances of another spirit." Scotch or Irish?

X. Y. Z. (London, E.C.) thinks policemen face enough danger without risking their lives in small *motor-boats*, and wonders what advantage can be claimed for them over the old row-boats. Speed, perhaps.

J. VAN DER C. (Champion Hill).—Jim Crow and Dr. Johnson have already written about *London*.

J. A. is in *the Royal Navy* and earns £1 a week. As he has free rations, he can send enough home to keep his wife and two children. He enquires, "if the cost of living is increased, how is my wife going to feed and clothe herself and children on the same amount of money weekly?" How indeed?

[*We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.*]

FRED ALF
GOLL & BIRCHALL
The well-known Liverpool Sportsmen.
FLUSHING, HOLLAND.
SEND POSTCARD (1d.) FOR RULES.
NO LIMIT. NO COMMISSION.
The principals may be seen at all principal meetings.
THE FIRM WHOM YOU ALL KNOW.

COOL
THE SECRET
of good tobacco is its coolness. It is the secret of Cope's Bond of Union, which smokes so delightfully cool that no one of the delicate flavours lent by its individual tobaccos is obscured. Pipe after pipe yields the same quiet enjoyment.
Medium .....5d. an oz.
Mild.....5½d. „
Pipe Charges, 5½d. per packet.
COPE'S Bond of Union
Never bites the tongue.

Triumph CYCLES and MOTOR CYCLES
are made under ideal manufacturing conditions by skilled workmen only, no female or cheap labour employed.
Cycles from £6 17 6 to £12 or by easy monthly payments.
Motor Cycles from £48 15 0
Catalogues post free.
TRIUMPH CYCLE CO. LTD., (Dept. 8.) COVENTRY.
Agents Everywhere.

GRESHAM LIFE OFFICE.
Founded 1848. Assets £10,300,000.
ENDOWMENT ASSURANCE POLICIES WITH CESSATION OF PREMIUMS DURING INCAPACITY
(TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT)
VERY MODERATE PREMIUMS.
Head Office:
ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.
JAMES H. SCOTT, General Manager.
The Gresham Life Assurance Society, Limited.

WHY PAY SHOP PRICES?
BEDSTEADS!
Newest patterns in Metal and Wood of every description. Bedding, Wire Mattresses, Cots, Chair Beds, &c. Furniture.—Bedrooms and General. *All goods sent direct from factory to home, saving middle profits.* Send post-card to-day for Illustrated Price Lists (post free). I allow discount for cash, or supply goods payable in monthly instalments, or in any way that will suit you. Established 22 years. CHARLES RILEY, (Desk B), MOOR St., BIRMINGHAM.
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RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.
("*Larry Lynx*" *of* The People, "*Double U. L.*" *of* Lotinga's Weekly, *and* "*Magpie*" *of* The Globe.)

Prophetic.

Lincoln over, but just in time to deal with the National, which has been quite a backers' pitfall. I shall never alter from an opinion—that is endorsed, moreover, by nine out of ten among steeplechase jockeys and trainers—that Jerry M., fit and well, must have been first or second. It seems absurd to argue that a horse who has always been absolutely sound is not fit at the *end* of a season; or I should say that Mr. Assheton-Smith's aim is to repeat last year's win in the big Paris steeplechase. Everybody with half an eye could not help seeing what a rattling good public performance Glenside ran at Sandown. Here, again, ill-luck intervened, for the horse has been coughing. Any animal must be *thoroughly* fit to win at Liverpool, and there is some disparagement on this very score in the case of Carsey, who has not done a really strong preparation. But as he is pretty fit and has each time yet "got round," I am going to again anticipate success for

Carsey,

and the greatest danger must be whichever is Mr. Bibby's best now—possibly Caubeen.

If kept for it in lieu of competing for the National, Cackler ought to win the Champion Steeplechase, whilst as we do know something of the jumping form, I shall anticipate a victory for

Sanhedrin

in the Liverpool Hurdle, the greatest danger being from Spikenard, who was very much fancied, but not started at Sandown. Another hint that recent trials, anyhow, supply is that

Mint Master,

a winner on the course, may take the Earl of Sefton's Plate—also on Saturday.

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